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THE TIMES

No 62,021

THURSDAY DECEMBER 27, 1984

20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Boy's eye view
Christmas Day
in the life of
Adrian Mole

Drama in the dales
The Yorkshire tale
to rival
Dallas and Dynasty

Screen image
Will British film
year in 1985 reflect
the true nature
of the industry?

Could try harder
Philip Howard gives
an end-of-term
report on
Britain's politicians

Portfolio

The £2,000 Times Portfolio
prize on Christmas Eve was
shared between two readers.
Mr Robert Langdon, of King-
ston-upon-Thames, Surrey,
and Mr Brian Culliffe, of
Great Crosby, Liverpool. There
is another £2,000 to be won
today; rules and how to play -
back page Information Service;
today's list - page 12.

Hunt protest group issues 'hit list'

Anti field sports activists
claimed responsibility for des-
ecrating the grave of the tenth
Duke of Beaufort, former
Master of the Beaufort Hunt.
The Hunt Retribution Squad
also said it had drawn up a "hit-
list" of people, including the
Royal Family, Lord Whitelaw,
Mr Michael Heseltine, Jackie
Charlton and football presenter
Jimmy Hill.

Oil warning

The United Arab Emirates will
go for a price war unless Opec
agrees on a package deal
covering price differentials as
well as a scheme to monitor
output, their oil minister said in
Geneva on the eve of today's
conference.

Ankara accord

Turkey and the Soviet Union
signed long-term economic co-
operation and trade agreements
during the visit to Ankara by
the Soviet Premier, Mr Nikolai
Tikhonov.

Scargill warning

Mr Arthur Scargill said that if
the Government did not want
the pit dispute to continue until
next Christmas, it must allow
the coal board to negotiate with
the NUM.

Tehran bombs

Two bombs exploded within 12
hours in Tehran, leaving six
people dead and about 50
injured. The Mujahedin oppo-
sition group denied responsibility.

Spanish pardon

King Juan Carlos granted a
pardon, the first of its kind, to
one of the former officers
convicted of taking part in the
1981 coup-attempt.

United stumble

Manchester United lost their
chance to go top of the First
Division when they were beaten
by the bottom club, Stoke City.

Leader page 9

Letters: On Levin attack from
Mr E. Heffer, MP and Miss P.
A. Smith; South African econ-
omic links from Dr J. P. Barber.
Leading articles: GLC replace-
ment; Soviet defence ministry;
ritual killings.

Features, pages 6 & 8

Indian voters observed; Resolu-
tions against Kinross in the
New Year? games board, not
bored; Philip Norman: Un-
moved by New York movie-
going; Profile of record-breaking
National Hunt jockey, John
Francome.

Books, page 7

Richard Holmes reviews Bosz-
y; Allan Massie on Linklater; John
Nicholson on fiction of the
week; Anthony Masters on
Michael Bennett and Beryl
Reid.

Obituary, page 10

Mr Ian Hendry, Mr Peter
Lawford.

Home News, page 11

Overseas 4-5 Court 28
Arts 10-13 Crossword 26
Architecture 18 Law Report 19
Arts 21 Science 14-17
Books 12-13 TV & Radio 19
Chess 4 Weather 20

Hostages in Libya may be freed early next month

By Robin Young

Expectations improved yester-
day that four Britons held as
political hostages in Libya may
soon be released, as the result of
the mission of the Archbishop
of Canterbury's special envoy,
Mr Terry Waite.

Mr Waite was invited yester-
day to attend a meeting of the
Libyan People's Congress, ex-
pected to start on January 5.

The Libyan leader, Colonel
Gaddafi, told Mr Waite on
Christmas Day that he would
recommend to the congress as
its first item of business that the
four men should be released.

Yesterday Mr Waite met the
acting Foreign Minister of
Libya in Tripoli and had the
details of Colonel Gaddafi's
proposals confirmed to him.

Mr Waite said: "They told
me they thought it would be
helpful if I returned to London
to report to the Archbishop, but
came back in the first week of
the new year to attend the
people's congress. The acting
minister concluded by saying:
"I have every confidence that
there will be a positive deci-
sion."

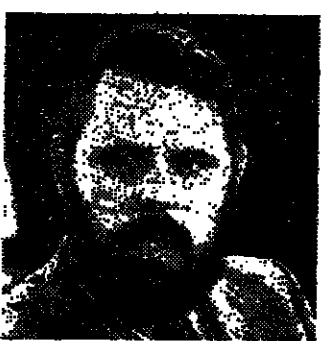
The four detainees are: Mr
Alan Russell, an English
teacher, accused of speaking to
a BBC World Service reporter
after an unsuccessful armed
attack on Colonel Gaddafi's
headquarters last May; Mr
Malcolm Anderson, an oil
engineer, whose alleged offence
was having letters in his
possession to take to England to
post for colleagues; Mr Robin

Plummer, a telephone engineer
originally arrested for doing a
U-turn on the university
campus in Tripoli; and Mr
Michael Berdinner, an English
lecturer at the university whose
alleged offence had not been
disclosed.

In a statement on Christmas
night, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the
Foreign Secretary, welcomed
the news that Mr Waite's
meeting with Colonel Gaddafi
had resulted in the Libyan
leader's recommendation that
the men should now be
released.

"If this leads to the release of
the four British detainees this
will be a very welcome and
constructive development", Sir
Geoffrey said.

He added that the Govern-
ment had "of course been in
close touch with Mr Waite and
are very grateful to the Arch-
bishop of Canterbury and him
for their efforts".



Mr Waite: Hopes raised
after mission

Reports from Tripoli that Mr
Waite had passed Colonel
Gaddafi a message from the
Government were, however,
promptly and swiftly denied:
"Any letters Mr Waite had for
Colonel Gaddafi came from the
Archbishop of Canterbury and
not from us", a Foreign Office
official said yesterday.

In his report of his two-hour
conversation with Colonel
Gaddafi, Mr Waite said that the
Libyan leader had expressed
concern about "harsh treat-
ment" of Libyan students living
in Britain.

A spokesman for Dr Robert
Runcie, said speaking to Mr
Waite last night that this
referred only to Libyan students
living and working in Britain,
not those charged with terrorist
offences.

Mr Waite had proposed that
the British Council of Churches
might set up telephone centres
and a student counselling
service for the benefit of Libyan
students living in Britain who
might feel nervous or fright-
ened.

Four Libyan students have
been committed for trial in
Manchester and two in London
charged with involvement in a
total of seven bomb attacks in
the two cities which injured 26
people last March.

The Government has consis-
tently ruled out any possibility
of doing a deal which might
allow Libyan terrorists held in
Britain to go free.

Photograph, page 2

Politician's murder mars Indian poll

From Michael Handlyn, Delhi

Three days of voting in the
Indian general election have
been marred by political violence
which culminated yesterday
in the assassination and murder
of a south Indian legislator.

The killing of Mr R. Uma-
shankar Reddy, a member of
the upper house of the Andhra
Pradesh legislature, appears to
have arisen from a vendetta
between left-wing Naxalite guer-
rillas and a group opposing
them. The number of election-
related deaths rose yesterday to
21.

The toll belies the statement
by the Chief Election Com-
missioner, Mr R. K. Trivedi,
that polling candidates in
Andhra Pradesh, which goes to
the polls for the first time today,
have been given armed body-
guards, as their constituencies
are infested with the Naxalites
involved in the vendetta in
which Mr Reddy died.

Thirteen of the deaths oc-
curred in the state of Bihar,
where political banditry has
become notorious, the eight
other killings in various parts of
the country, included that of an
independent candidate, who
was attacked by rival pro-
cession.

Voting has been concluded in
Bihar and most other states, but
will continue today in Uttar
Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh,
Jammu and Kashmir and
Maharashtra. A final round of
voting will take place tomorrow
in three constituencies, two in
Meghalaya and one in Naga-
land. Both states are in the
mountainous north-east.

Four Pakistanis killed in Afghan air raid

Islamabad (AP) - Six Afghan
aircraft bombed a Pakistani
village close to the Afghan
border, killing four people and
injuring six others, a Pakistani
Foreign Ministry spokesman
said yesterday.

He said the bombing oc-
curred on Tuesday at the village
of Arand, in the Chitral area
150 miles north-west of Is-
lamabad.

The Afghan charge d'affaires
was summoned to the Foreign
Ministry and a "strong protest"
was lodged with him, the
spokesman said.

According to the Pakistanis,
Afghan military aircraft have
committed more than 636
violations of Pakistani airspace
between 1978 and December

Counting begins tomorrow,
and it is expected there will be a
hundred definite results by
midnight.

As well as the violence, there
has been evidence of electoral
malpractice in Bihar, Jammu
and Kashmir, West Bengal,
Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

In the latter state, a *Times*
correspondent saw ballot-stuff-
ing, vote-stealing and intimid-
ation taking place.

Because of complaints of
malpractice, re-voting will take
place today at nearly 150
polling stations.

In fairness too, it should be
pointed out that deaths from
caste conflicts are not uncom-
mon in Bihar or Uttar Pradesh.
There are frequent armed
clashes between gangs of high-
caste Bhumiars (the name
simply landholders) or Brahmins
and lower-caste Yadavs, or
between Harijans and the
higher castes.

The electoral violence may
therefore be seen as another sort
of social conflict, and not just
part of the polling scene.

However, the *Times of India*
said yesterday that the intensifi-
cation of class and caste hatred
could not fully account for the
"continued spate of head-bash-
ing".

But the traditional hostility
between Jats and Harijans in
Haryana state did not disturb
the electoral peace there because
local politicians of all hues
resisted the temptation to
induce villagers to browbeat
their rivals, the newspaper said.

Rajiv's chances, page 8

Extradited man plans 'life' appeal

Dominic McGlinchey, one-
time reputed leader of the Irish
National Liberation Army, is to
appeal against his conviction
for the murder of a policeman's
brother, his solicitor, Mr Joe
Rice, said yesterday.

McGlinchey, aged 30, was
the first terrorist suspect to be
extradited from the Irish Rep-
ublic to Northern Ireland. He
was sentenced to life imprison-
ment on Christmas Eve for the
murder of an elderly postmistress
at Toomebridge Co Antrim,
seven years ago.

The appeal is expected to be
lodged with the Ulster High
Court within the next week.

McGlinchey was Ireland's
most hunted fugitive at the time
of his arrest by the Garda nine
months ago and in recent years
was considered to be the
commander of the INLA after
having been a member of the
Provisional IRA. In a clan-
destine press interview near
Dublin last year he admitted to
being involved in more than 20
killings.

Under the terms of his
extradition, the Ulster autho-
rities could try him only for the
offence cited on the
extradition warrant, the
murder of Mrs Hester McMul-
lan, aged 67. She died when her
house, where she lived with her
son, a police reservist, was
sprayed by Armalite rifle fire.

The prosecution maintained
McGlinchey's thumb print was
found on a window of the gang's
VW getaway car. McGlinchey, a
car mechanic, claimed he had
both worked on the vehicle, and
had been given a lift in it.

Mr Justice Hutton, however,
said it was straining credibility
too far to suggest that the
thumb print was placed at other
than the material time. He
accepted as evidence affidavits
which McGlinchey had sworn
in Dublin that he had been
involved in Provisional IRA
operations. The judge said he
found it difficult to assess the
extent of McGlinchey's involve-
ment in the Toomebridge
murder, and would make no
recommendation on the mini-
mum term he should serve in jail.

Immediately after McGlin-
chey was sentenced, the Royal
Ulster Constabulary scaled
down its investigations into a
number of other killings. His
conviction came only hours
after 14 loyalists, convicted on
the evidence of a supergrass,
were cleared by the Northern
Ireland Court of Appeal.

"Killings boast," page 3



Close call for champion

John Francome, the champion
jockey, rode Burrough Hill
Lad, the odds-on favourite to a
photo-finish victory in yester-
day's big race at Kempton
Park, the King George VI
Chase. In a field of three, the
smallest for 20 years, this

year's Cheltenham Gold Cup
winner just held on to beat
Combs Ditch. Francome was
earlier fined £50 for his riding
of Gratification (Photograph:
Chris Cole)

Francome profile, page 6;
racing, page 17

Thatcher stays firm over Falklands

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister has
repudiated an all-party Com-
mons select committee's doubts
about Britain's legal claim to
the Falkland Islands.

In a special Christmas broad-
cast to the Islands, Mrs
Margaret Thatcher said: "I want
to have a word about many of
the visitors that I know you get
coming to Falklands. Some of
them come with all sorts of
ideas, some of them start
pontificating about the future."

But she then stated: "The
Falkland Islands are British
territory. The people have been
there for many generations,
often before families that went
to Argentina."

"People who come and see
you come from a democracy.
Democracy is about the right of
self-determination."

And when people now tel-
ler me: "Ah, well, there is democ-
racy in the Argentine", I say:
"Yes, and the people in govern-
ment of the Argentine should
know now they have democ-
racy, and they should know
that they must extend that same
right to the people of the
Falklands."

Dalyell refuses to reveal source on Murrell death

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Tam Dalyell, the Labour
MP who has blamed British
intelligence burglars for the
killing of a woman aged 78 in
Shrewsbury last March, is
refusing to disclose the identity
of his source to the police.

An appointment has been
made for Mr Dalyell to be
interviewed by Chief Superin-
tendent David Cole, head of
West Mercia CID, at the House
of Commons on January 15.

But Mr Dalyell said last night
that although he was convinced
that his source would be able to
help the police with their
murder investigation, he could
not supply the name. "Once I
start to reveal sources, who else
will talk to me again?" he asked.

The MP said in the Com-
mons last Thursday that Miss
Hilda Murrell, an international
rose expert, had been killed
after she had disturbed burglars
who, he said, may have
suspected that Miss Murrell was
keeping documents relating to
the sinking of the General

"That is why I constantly say
to everyone who comes to see
me: it is the wishes of the
Falkland Islanders that are
paramount - and so it will
continue to be."

A report from the Commons
select committee on foreign
affairs, published earlier this
month, failed to reach a
"categorical conclusion on the
legal validity of the historical
claims of either country."

It also said: "Some kind of
accommodation with Argentina
is not only inevitable, in view of
the cost of the present policy to
the UK, but also desirable if the
Falklands are to have any
prospect of long-term economic
prosperity and political stabil-
ity."

Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP
for Linlithgow and the most
staunch critic of government
policy towards the Falklands,
said last night that he had
written to Sir Geoffrey Howe,
the Foreign Secretary, about
the implications of the broadcast.
He said that the Prime
Minister was playing into the
hands of those elements of the
Argentine Military who wanted
to take revenge against Britain

PM's pay rise 'will be only 5 per cent'

By Our Political
Correspondent

The Prime Minister has
decided to take a pay rise of
only 5 per cent from the start of
the new year, next Tuesday,
with a salary of £42,980
including parliamentary allow-
ance.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is
entitled to draw £53,600, but
draws the reduced salary entitle-
ment of a Cabinet minister in
the Commons in order to set an
example of restraint.

That decision to forego more
than £10,000 means that there
are two dozen senior civil
servants, including the Sec-
retary of the Cabinet and the
Permanent Secretary to the
Treasury, who have been re-
ceiving £51,250 from last
month, and all the depart-
mental permanent secretaries,
who have been getting £45,500
from last month, who earn
more than the Prime Minister
and all her Cabinet colleagues.

Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of
the Opposition, will be re-
ceiving an extra £1,920, or 5 per
cent, to put him on £40,310
from the new year - just over
£50 a week less than Mrs
Thatcher.

Salaries for back-bench MPs
in the Commons go up at the
same time from £16,106 to
£16,908, an increase of £80 a
month.

According to the latest
Department of Employment
figures, the underlying increase
in average earnings for all
workers to last October was 7.5
per cent.

Increases in MPs' salaries
and ministerial salaries, by
annual stages of between 5.5 per
cent and 4.5 per cent at the start
of each year to 1987, were
announced in the Commons on
July 21 last year after a back-
bench revolt on the issue.

Full list of new salaries, including
reduced parliamentary salaries where
office holders are also MPs

Prime Minister and Cabinet members in Commons	£42,980
Lord Chancellor	£36,900
Mr Speaker	£44,560
Cabinet ministers in Lords	£32,280
Minister of State, Commons	£25,580
Minister of State, Lords	£28,000
Parl. Sec., Commons	£28,120
Parl. Sec., Lords	£22,520
Attorney General	£44,560
Solicitor General	£38,840
Lord Advocate, Commons	£33,320
Sol. Gen. Scotland	£34,700

"The Lord Chancellor has a notional
salary set at £22,000 more than the Lord
Chief Justice's £38,900 but is expected
to continue taking the Lords cabinet
salary, £33,260, little more than half his
entitlement."

In the Commons:	
Opposition Leader	£40,310
Chief Whip	£37,590
Deputy Chief Whip	£35,580
Opp. Chief Whip	£33,580
Government Whip	£25,310
Assistant Opp. Whip	£25,310
Chairman, Way and Means Dep. Chairman	£25,580
Dep. Chair. of Cities	£25,160

In the Lords:	
Chief Whip	£28,000
Dep. Chief Whip	£22,520
Government Whip	£19,710
Opposition Leader	£22,520
Opp. Chief Whip	£19,710
Chairman of Cities	£28,000
Prin. Dep. Chair. of Cities	£25,160

Belgrano during the 1982
Falklands conflict.

Miss Murrell was known to
be close to her nephew,
Commander Rob Green, a
former naval intelligence officer
who had passed the signal
ordering the sinking.

No such documents were
being held at Miss Murrell's
home and Mr Dalyell accepted
that there was no premeditated
attack by the burglars, but he
told the House: "Being a lady of
courage and spirit, often found
in that generation of women,
Miss Murrell fought them.
They, too, had to fight, injured,
her, and panicked. The cover-
up had to begin because the
searchers were members of
British Intelligence, I am
informed."

Mr Dalyell, who called for a
select committee of Privy
Councillors to monitor the
activities of the intelligence
services, said last night: "I do
believe that there are certain
areas of British Intelligence that
are running amok."

For millions of children Christmas is something
to look forward to.
For thousands, though, it can prove just the
beginning of another year of deprivation.
We try our best, throughout the year, to tackle
both the emotional and physical problems of these
thousands.
Unfortunately, we are unable to help them all.
Not through any lack of willing. But because of
lack of money.
So please help us with a donation however small.
To small children its effect won't be small. 2362

Name _____
Address _____
Amount £ _____

Please to make my donation by Visa Account.
Please debit my (Overseas) Access No. _____

To: The Children's Society, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0PH.

Freepost, London SE11 4SR.

The Children's Society.

More fog and ice forecast as five die on the roads

By Rupert Morris
and Joe Ravitch

Fog and ice were likely to be
a problem all over the country
until the weekend, with snow
on hills and moors, the London
Weather Centre said last night.

Yesterday, five people killed
on British roads as black ice
caused numerous accidents,
and closed the A1 in Notting-
hamshire for two hours, as
sudden blast of wintry weather
caught motorists by surprise.

A girl aged seven was
missing last night after being

swept off a rock at St Oswald's
Bay, near Lulworth, Dorset. A
search by Weymouth lifeboat
and coastguards will begin
again at dawn today.

Police and the AA yesterday
described the roads as "the
slippest of the year", and
warned drivers to take extreme
care. Milder, wetter weather is
expected in the North-West by
tomorrow, but elsewhere tem-
peratures will remain below
freezing for several days.

Three people were reported
dead, and five others injured in
a three-car crash on the A1 at

Elkesley near Retford, yester-
day. The road was blocked for
more than two hours as firemen
used cutting equipment to reach
the injured.

In Gloucestershire, on the
A38 Gloucester to Tewkesbury
road at Twiggworth, a car spun
out of control before it smashed
into a farmhouse, killing two
brothers. They were named as
David Watson, aged 14, and
Richard Watson, aged both of
Chardstock, Glos.

At least 15 people died in
fires - nine in one house, eight
of them from one family. Five

children were among the nine
killed in the blaze at Bury,
Greater Manchester, early on
Christmas.

Two brothers Alexander
Gadsby, aged five, and James,
aged three, died early yesterday
after Alexander Gadsby, aged
five, and James, aged three,
died early yesterday in a
fire in their home in Shering-
ton, Buckinghamshire.

In London, two men died in a
Victorian house divided into
bedsiters in Catford, South-
east London, during a fire early
on Christmas Day.

Fire deaths theory, page 3

TUC rejects cut in real wages as means of reducing unemployment

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The union movement has launched a campaign to counter growing pressure from the Government for cuts in real wages as means of reducing unemployment, which the TUC expects to be a cornerstone of short-term economic policy.

The first issue of a bi-monthly TUC economic briefing, published today, which will be sent to all unions, argues that the Government strategy is "simplistic" and will lead to an increasing number of workers falling into the poverty trap.

Ministers, determined to encourage the reduction in wages costs as a means of creating more jobs, are taking their lead from Mr. Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who said in October that if earnings rose slower than prices instead of 3 per cent faster a further 500,000 jobs could be created.

Whitehall has argued that 50,000 more jobs could be available if industries covered by wages councils were relieved of the necessity to follow minimum rates established by the councils. But the TUC

document says that there is no evidence to support that claim or the assertion that paying adult wages to young people depresses employment.

"The logic of the government argument points the way to a society based on ever-widening standards and conditions, a two-tier job market and an increase in insecurity and in authoritarian management," the TUC says.

The union argument is that since 1979 unemployment has more than doubled while real wages of some of the lowest paid, including young people, have been cut. The TUC, quoting Department of Employment statistics, says that the lowest 10 per cent of male manual workers suffered a real pay cut of 2 per cent, while those under 18 saw a reduction of 6 per cent.

Despite the union arguments, Mr. Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, will press ahead in the new year with proposals for redrawing responsibilities of wages councils, which are set the minimum

wages of almost three million low-paid workers.

The thrust of the Government's policy will be to reduce the costs of employing young people and is likely to come down against wholesale abolition of the councils. Ministers recently suffered the embarrassment of a report, commissioned by the Department of Employment, showing that wages councils in the retail sector had "no independent employment effect".

The TUC says it "wholeheartedly rejects cynical attempts by the Government to duck the blame for unemployment. There is no mystery about the huge loss of jobs since 1979", and the TUC presses for higher investment to provide the new jobs.

It questions the Government's argument that British wage costs are too high compared with international competitors and states that total hourly labour costs in manufacturing are about half of those in the United States and two-thirds those in West Germany.

Navy anxious over new ships delay

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Mounting pressure on the defence budget is causing anxiety in the Royal Navy that it may lead to a slowing down in the rate of ordering frigates and destroyers and affect the quality of the Fleet at the end of the decade.

Orders for two type-22 Broadsword Class frigates, which had been expected by the end of 1983, have still not been decided. As recently as the end of October, ministers were saying that they hoped to announce the orders before the end of the year, but it was officially stated immediately before Christmas that no decisions had yet been taken.

The delay has partly been caused by difficulties in deciding which of three competing shipyards, Swan Hunter, Vosper Thornycroft and Cammell Laird, should get the contracts. But it is believed that the most recent delays have been influenced by budgetary pressures.

There is also concern about the likely rate of ordering of the new type-23 Duke Class of frigate. In his defence review of June 1981, Sir John Nott, then Secretary of State for Defence, said the ministry would "accelerate to the maximum possible extent" the ordering of the first of this class. But the order was not placed until last October.

The Navy expects to build at least eight type-23s but there are now worries over how long this will take.

Alliance only beacon in political gloom, Steel says

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

The savagery of the coal strike and the continuing plague of unemployment cast a blight on 1984. Mr. David Steel, the Liberal leader, said in a message to party members yesterday.

The Liberal-SDP Alliance had become the only beacon of light in the political gloom, and he appealed to the Alliance to face up to the formidable responsibility of creating a "credible and united alternative government".

Mr. Steel said that the deep divisions of class and prejudice had been widened by the coal strike, and the Government's failure to take advantage of North Sea oil to rebuild the economy had become more apparent. "The devastation of long-term unemployment continues to spread like a plague across our towns and cities", he said.

Alliance had emerged as the real alternative and the only hope of stopping a third Thatcher term, he said.

"The seven by-elections to date give our Alliance 36 per cent of the Tories' 34 per cent and Labour's 27 per cent, this demonstrating our continuing upward movement since the general election."

"In the last six months of 1984, we have had on the local election front 26 Liberal net gains of councillors plus eight SDP net gains, compared with only 12 for Labour and a decline of 38 for the Tories."

"It is already apparent that whatever the electoral arithmetic at the next election, to put it at its lowest, the next British Government is unlikely to be formed without us," Mr. Steel said.

Laws part families at Christmas

By Our Race Relations Correspondent

Hundreds of British children are spending their Christmas holidays separated from their fathers by immigration rules which are causing Conservative backbench MPs to become increasingly uneasy.

The children are innocent victims of the "primary purpose" which prohibits the entry to Britain of men judged by immigration officials to have married in order to gain the right to settlement here.

Mr. Trevor Skeet, Conservative MP for North Bedfordshire, says it is an impossible matter to prove. How can anyone judge which of several reasons for a marriage is the main one, he asks. Immigration officials, he says, twist the answers to questions posed under the rule to suit their own convenience.

The British Council of Churches is urging the Government to end such separation of families by bringing immigration rules into line with EEC law.

Husbands or wives of EEC nationals working in another member state are allowed to join their spouses, irrespective of their own citizenship. In Britain, men can bring in their foreign wives, but women are prevented from bringing in their husbands by the "primary purpose" rule.

Mr. Skeet says it is unreasonable to expect women who have lived in Britain since childhood, acquired permanent settlement and have become westernized to move to another country if they marry men without rights to enter Britain.

He also backs a plea to the Home Office that deportations of husbands already here should stop until decisions are made on their wives' applications for British citizenship.

The Home Office argues that allowing the husbands to come endangers the labour market in Britain, and would be unfair to other men seeking entry clearance to Britain if marriage allowed them to "jump the queue". But ministers acknowledge that many of the cases brought to them by MPs involve genuine marriages and families.

Most of the families affected involve women from the Asian sub-continent. Miss Clare Short, Labour MP for Brighton, Ladywood, said the grief and misery of the families was heartrending. It was worst for women who had been able to live with their husbands for a short while and now had children to support.



Children singing in the chapel being built from runway rubble at RAF Molesworth (Photograph: John Manning).

Protest flourishes in the mud

By Pat Healy

From the road, it looks as if the disused Second World War airfield at RAF Molesworth, Cambridgeshire, has been encamped by gypsies with a long row of caravans, brightly painted buses and tents by the trees. Then you reach the sign declaring that this is "Peace Corner" and another marking out "Anarchy Farm".

Molesworth, designated Britain's second cruise missile base, now accommodates the most rapidly growing peace camp of the dozen providing a permanent protest against nuclear weapons and American bases. It is the only one established on a base, because Molesworth has neither fence nor gates to keep out intruders.

The base will be the site of next Easter's peace protests organized by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, which is planning a permanent rota of campers to prevent a fence being built there so that missile silos can be constructed at the base.

In the past four months, more than 100 men, women

and children with attendant goats, dogs and cats, have arrived to set up home there. They are a mixed band, including master builders, carpenters and printers, united only by their opposition to cruise missiles.

Their determination is epitomized by the chapel - named Eirene, the Greek word for "peace" - which is slowly being built with runway rubble at the main entrance. The chapel has been dedicated by the Bishop of Huntingdon and was used recently for a carol service attended by more than 100 people, including several members of Ex-Services CND wearing their campaign medals and service decorations.

The chapel is the most enduring of the structures on the peace camp, but a new print workshop is being built, to replace the present marquee which houses the duplicator and typewriters on which they compose their messages to the world. There is a temporary school for the 15 children there, but it too will be replaced by a more permanent structure.

The camp has had its first baby, Taron Lorian-Flinday, a boy now four months old who was born in his parents' bus at Molesworth. His two sisters and older brother have experienced some of the opposition aroused in nearby villages by the presence of the camp. Ben, aged 14, has dropped out of school because of the hostility expressed to him, but the girls Rhian, aged 7, and Lennie, 6, continue to go because of the support expressed to their mother by other parents with children at the school.

The campers hope that the extensive mud on the base will make any eviction difficult to effect, and that a newsletter delivered recently will help to break down local hostility.

But Bridie Wallis, a former nurse who was married in the Molesworth chapel and lives in nearby Clopton village, said that peace protesters were now part of any nuclear missile base. If local people wanted to get rid of the protesters, the missiles would have to go, too.



Christmas apart: Mrs Frances Waite, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, at their home in Blackheath, south London, yesterday. Mr Terry Waite returns tonight from Libya, where he has been seeking the release of four British hostages.

Hecklers thrown out of church

Hecklers from the Rev Ian Paisley's Free Presbyterian Church were ejected from a Christmas morning church service at Limavady, Co Londonderry, when they objected to the presence of a Roman Catholic priest.

For the second consecutive year, the Rev David Armstrong, Limavady's Presbyterian minister, and Fr Kevin Mullan, the Catholic parish priest, were attending each other's Christmas services to exchange greetings with the congregations of the two churches which are separated by only 30 yards.

Three Free Presbyterian demonstrators slipped into the service at the Presbyterian church and began heckling. Scuffles broke out and the hecklers were ejected by members of the congregation. The Rev James McClements, the local Free Presbyterian minister who was leading the protesters claimed he was punched in the face.

Plane crash victim found

The police have confirmed that a woman found dead on Stonehaven beach, Kincardine, last Wednesday was Miss Aileen Ross, aged 36, the former wife of the stores tycoon Sir Hugh Fraser. She was a passenger on a microlight plane which plunged into the sea off Inverberrie seven weeks ago.

Woman in flames

A woman, aged 36, was recovering in hospital yesterday after being engulfed in flames in her living room. Mrs Christine Middlehurst, of Drake Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, was said to be "improving" after suffering burns to more than 50 per cent of her body.

Bomber marries

Ann Bateson, aged 28, of Magherafelt, Co Londonderry, who is serving 20 years for a bombing and is due to be freed in 1987, married while on Christmas parole.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$25, Belgium 120, Canada 120, Denmark 120, France 120, Germany 120, Greece 120, Hong Kong 120, India 120, Italy 120, Japan 120, New Zealand 120, Norway 120, Portugal 120, Singapore 120, South Africa 120, Sweden 120, Switzerland 120, Taiwan 120, Thailand 120, USA 120, West Germany 120, Yugoslavia 120.

Ten saved as tug capsizes

Ten people were rescued from a tug which capsized and sank off the Isle of Wight on Christmas Eve. One crew member is missing. The implacable went down about 30 miles off St Catherine's Point.

The rescued people were winched to safety from a lifeboat by the crew of a helicopter.

The 750-ton tug, which recently began a year's contract work for the Ministry of Defence, was on its way to the Falklands. She had a Merchant Navy crew of 11.

Help for hard-hit pit equipment industry rejected

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Government has rejected pleas from the country's increasingly battered mining equipment industry for urgent, short-term help and there are now fears among companies that the crisis brought on by the miners' dispute may soon become a disaster.

Almost all of the 90 members of the Association of British Mining Equipment Companies (Abmec) are operating short-term working, and many have had to lay off workers.

But attempts to persuade the Department of Trade and Industry to make the industry a special case with the reintroduction of the temporary short-term working supplement have come to naught. Mr. Harold Rhodes, director general of Abmec, said: "We have been extended a sympathetic ear but the Government's answer is that available funds have been directed into training programmes."

"We don't expect to be bailed out, but when the strike is over there will be a vacuum and we would have hoped for some better treatment."

Ordering by the National Coal Board, which was already clipped by the miners' overtime ban, has sunk to under 80 per cent of last year's levels and while the board is keeping its suppliers informed of future needs it is not buying equipment for which it has no immediate use.

Activity in the industry varies from 25 to 75 per cent, largely in proportion to a company's dependency on the coal board and the different successes being achieved in export markets. There are hopes that last year's £150 million of overseas sales (from output totalling £1 billion) will rise to £200 million this year.

The impact on the equipment industry has been patchy and unpredictable, but the lay-offs and concern among companies has added to the gloom that has settled over industry and commerce in the coalfield regions.

A recent study by Phillips & Drew, the stockbrokers, concluded that Dobson Park Industries, which relies on the coal board for 50 per cent of its sales, was particularly vulnerable, while the Dowry group had been least affected. These two, and Anderson Strathclyde, were however most likely to benefit from increased business abroad.

The industry fears that after the strike there may not be a big backlog of orders unleashed. With more coal fields becoming unworkable because of the strike, or the board's closure plans, new equipment orders will be curtailed. This prospect comes on top of last year's bad trading conditions.

The coal board's ordering power is enormous and the impact of the dispute is being felt beyond immediate suppliers to sub-contractors and providers of ancillary equipment. Last year, the total amount spent by the board on contracts and services was £1.2 billion, which, about £1 billion was on machinery and other pit equipment. The board has 4,000 suppliers of which about half account for 92 per cent of the £1 billion of machinery equipment supplies.

'No return' to old coal output level

Coal production in Britain will never return to its pre-strike level of 110 million tons, according to a report today by DRI Europe, energy analysts based in Paris. Annual production will pick up next year to 70 million tons after the dispute, assumed to end in the second quarter, and rise to 97 million tons in 1986. That level will be maintained to 1995 by new mines.

Elsewhere in the industrial economy, the coal strike is having negligible impact, only in the retail sector, and particularly in small shops, is the lack of spending power among miners and their families making inroads into business finances.

A survey of the regional offices of the Confederation of British Industry shows that industry generally is more preoccupied with national issues such as unemployment and if export-orientated, their international competitiveness. The CBI's Yorkshire and Humberside region said: "For the majority of firms the coal dispute remains of negligible importance. Demand and sales remain brisk, particularly in consumer products, clothing, textiles, chemicals and pharmaceuticals."

Overcrowding puts young in adult jails

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Juveniles aged 15 are being drafted out of young people's remand centres to adult prisons to alleviate acute overcrowding, the National Association of Probation Officers (NAPO) says.

Members have reported that some of these juveniles are spending 23 hours a day in their prison cells because of lack of education, staffing problems, and to avoid mixing with older prisoners.

"Investigations have revealed that the authorities allocate separate landings for the younger prisoners but that separation could not be guaranteed during the day", Mr. Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary, says in the NAPO Newsletter.

"Members throughout the country have quite recently reported increases in the number of young people remanded in custody prior to trial, and a

continued increase in the numbers finally sentenced to periods of youth custody."

That had led to overcrowding and chaos within the system, the newsletter says. Publication of NAPO's findings coincide with the results of a survey published by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders. Returns from one-quarter of local authority areas in England and Wales say the number of juvenile offenders sentenced to custody increased by 21 per cent over the first half of 1984 compared with the second half of last year.

Mr. Fletcher writes: "NAPO believes that it will soon be necessary for the Home Office to review the workings of the Criminal Justice Act and the sentencing powers of magistrates."

Charities: 1

Volunteers walk the funding tightrope

A West End emergency service for drug addicts and runaways gets 47 per cent of its income directly from rate and taxpayers and a substantial slice of its other income in fees paid by council social workers. The Save the Children Fund gets nearly all of the money it spends in Britain on inner city playgroups and mother-and-toddler clubs from councils.

Over half the income of the Greater London Association for the Disabled comes from a single local authority, the Greater London Council. If the GLC is abolished, "I expect the government to make provision," Ms Margaret Lorek, its director, says.

Recent years have seen a striking growth in central government payments to voluntary groups, notably from the Manpower Services Commission and the Department of the Environment. Since 1979, grants from the latter have risen by more than 270 per cent; its urban programme supports community projects in Birmingham and workshops for the mentally handicapped in Lam-

Are voluntary social services organisations about to pay the price of their increasing reliance on public money? What the Government and councils can give them can also take away - as charities and voluntary groups in London and the big cities are now finding out. DAVID WALKER and HEATHER TOWNSEND report.

beth, south London. The 26,300 full and part-time employees of English voluntary housing associations rely on the £500 million or more handed out each year by a quango, the Housing Corporation.

Attention has focused on the spectacular increase in money from councils. The GLC is spending £53 million this year on grants to voluntary bodies - up from £5 million in 1981-82, the first year of Labour administration at County Hall.

The table, based on a sample of groups in the City of Westminster, shows the extent of reliance on public money; the pattern would probably hold in the other metropolitan areas.

Mr. Charles Woods, of Voluntary Action, Westminster, notes "there is a tendency for

more work to be done by aid staff; there has been a growth of staff and in the number of organizations recently. It is an effect of more generous grant-giving by public authorities, especially the GLC."

Sources of income: Westminster survey

Type of organization	Grants as % of total income
Advice services	43-100
Youth clubs	52-63
Community centres	27-80
Community work	50
Arts bodies	10-20
Organizations for offenders	54-97

Source: Voluntary Action, Westminster

voluntary groups. It now has 300 members. "Recruitment is staggering," says Nalco, which estimates a possible membership of 5,000.

But this new intimacy between voluntary groups and the public sector worries some people. The National Council for Voluntary Organizations (which itself is subsidized) recently published a code giving a warning against exceeding a "prudent proportion" of public funds.

Tomorrow: What happened to private money.

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Patients watch lives being saved by tube technology

Patients yesterday told how they watched their lives being saved by a revolutionary technique which makes a surgeon's scalpel redundant in some operations.

The procedure, carried out under local anaesthetic at Hammersmith Hospital, west London, involves guiding very fine tubes along veins or arteries to the kidney, liver, brain, or any other part of the body.

Patients can watch the procedure on a screen as tubes seal arteries after stab wounds or road accidents. The system can also be used in the treatment of conditions such as ulcers. Kidney stones and gallstones can be removed, and blocked arteries in the limbs, the kidneys and the heart can be cleared.

Doctors guide the tube through a single, minute skin puncture to the trouble spot with the help of a £400,000 computer-controlled X-ray machine.

Professor David Allison, Director of Diagnostic Radiology at the hospital's Post-Graduate Medical School, said the tubes were "armed" with materials including tiny steel coils, plastic beads, inflatable balloons and even glue.

These were released into the body through the tip of the tube to stop bleeding, cut the blood supply to an organ or to clear blocked arteries.

People suffering from bleeding from many causes, including ulcers, injuries and weak spots along the walls of arteries could be treated by the procedure.

Minister on corpse charge

A Welsh Presbyterian minister has been remanded in custody to Risley remand centre Lancashire, until January 2, accused of three offences, including causing criminal damage to a corpse.

The Rev Emrys Owen, aged 62, a bachelor, of Maeston Close, Tywyn, Gwynedd, appeared before a special court in Tywyn on Christmas Eve.

He is accused of damaging a corpse between April 1976 and last Sunday in the parish of Tywyn, contrary to the Criminal Damage Act of 1971.

A second charge alleges that between the same dates in the parish of Tywyn, while at a place of worship, namely a chapel, he was guilty of indecent behaviour contrary to the Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act of 1860, as amended by the Criminal Justice Act of 1967.

He was also accused of maliciously sending a letter on November 21 to a woman, threatening to kill her granddaughter, contrary to the Offences against the Person Act 1861.

An application for a remand in custody was made by Inspector Iwan Roberts, and this was not opposed by the defence solicitor, Mr Meirion Wynne.

The magistrate, Mrs Cynthia Davies, granted legal aid. There was no application for reporting restrictions to be lifted.

Baby for actress

Sandra Dickenson, the television personality and wife of Peter Davison, the actor who formerly played Dr Who, gave birth to a 7lb 7oz daughter four minutes into Christmas Day at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London. She is their first child.

Victims of leak refuse cash offer

Re-Chem International has offered to pay a total of more than £3,500 in compensation to victims of a chemical leak at its plant near Southampton earlier this year, but the offer has not been accepted.

The leak, which the company admitted contained bromine, affected between 60 and 70 workers at a neighbouring chemical plant, Enichem at Hythe, Hampshire. Re-Chem was forced to shut down for a full investigation.

Victims suffered various symptoms, including stinging eyes, nausea, and vomiting. Lawyers fighting their case say that four people were quite seriously ill, and two still suffer side-effects from the leak on September 17.

Mr Campbell Kennedy, of the General Municipal Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, said that the payment worked out at £30 a person. In most cases, the symptoms were not serious, but about four people were badly affected.

He emphasized that the figure put forward by Re-Chem's insurance company had still to be finalized, but it was part of an agreement that those affected would have to prove their illness. The four most seriously affected were expected to get more money.

Re-Chem specialize in the disposal of dangerous chemical waste. Its three plants in Britain have been the centre of controversy over the destruction, by incineration, of Poly Chlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), which have been proved to have cancer links.

Burning PCBs is a risky business because at too low a temperature they can be converted into a deadly dioxin.



Members of the Quora setting off for their Boxing Day meet from Loughborough Market Place yesterday. (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Hunt protesters violate grave

By Joe Ravitch

An anti-hunt campaign group, the Hunt Retribution Squad, has claimed responsibility for desecrating the grave of the tenth Duke of Beaufort, a former Master of the Beaufort Hunt.

Yesterday, on the morning of the Beaufort Hunt's Boxing Day meeting, an anonymous telephone caller to the Press Association said a group of ten anti-hunt activists had tried to dig up the body of the Duke, on Christmas night and had

defaced the grave as a protest against "a very cruel man." The caller said: "We are sick and tired of the way hunting is carrying on murdering animals."

The cross over the duke's grave in the private family cemetery at the parish church of Badminton, Avon was stoned and anti-hunt slogans were sprayed around the cemetery.

"There has been an attempt to interfere with the grave; we think they were trying to get at the body," a police spokesman said.

Members of the hunt taking part in the Boxing Day meeting a few miles away from the cemetery, expressed anger and sadness over the desecration. The eleventh Duke of Beaufort, who has succeeded his father as leader of the hunt, said the actions of the anti-hunt group were "disgusting and sick."

Major Gerald Gundry, Master of the Hunt, called the vandals "diabolical", and insisted: "They say we are not nice people, but what do you call people who behave like this?"

Henry Hugh Arthur FitzRoy Somerset, the tenth Duke, had been Master of Horse for 42 years, and was renowned for his hunting activities. He died earlier this year at the age of 83.

The Hunt Saboteurs' Association said in a statement yesterday that it did not know who carried out the attack but viewed it "in no way unfavourably".

"In another field sports protest, about 30 demonstrators picketed a Boxing Day hare coursing meeting at Crebilly, near Ballymena, Northern Ireland. They were outnumbered by the police and there was no trouble in what over the past 15 years has become a traditional confrontation between coursing fans and their opponents."

Jaguar to reshuffle car dealerships

By Clifford Webb Motoring Correspondent

Jaguar has begun a reorganization of its dealerships in the United States and Europe which could cost the recently-privatized luxury car maker several million pounds in compensation payments to dealers it wants to dismiss.

Litigation has already started in the United States where about thirty dealers face the loss of their increasingly profitable Jaguar franchise. They have rejected "golden handshakes" believed to total more than £2.5 million.

In Europe, about 350 dealers have been told by Jaguar to make costly improvements to the standards of their premises and their staff. They have been given warning that failure to meet these minimum standards will lead to the withdrawal of their franchises.

It is believed that about a hundred dealers will be unable or unwilling to meet these conditions. Mr John Egan, Jaguar's Chairman, has been dissatisfied for some time with the quality of many of his overseas dealers.

Now, with record production of 33,400 cars assured for 1984, compared with 28,000 last year, and a turnover this year approaching £600,000 he feels strong enough to tackle the problem.

The US market takes more than half of Jaguar's production and with the pound's steady decline against the dollar, American sales become more profitable almost daily. However, overdependence on the US market has brought the Coventry firm to the brink of bankruptcy three years ago. The rate of exchange then stood at \$2.40. Now it is hovering around a record low of \$1.16.

To prevent that happening again, Mr Egan is putting more emphasis on the European market. He wants to sell 10,000 cars a year there, compared with the present 4,000.

The regulations will stipulate that the price for a similar model of car should not vary by more than 12 per cent from one country to another.

They are supposed also to make it illegal for a car dealer in Europe to refuse to supply a right-hand-drive car for a motorist to drive to Britain, or to insist on extra money for doing so.

But guidelines for the regulations indicate that dealers in some countries could ask for a "supplement" on top of the list price for providing a car they would not normally sell.

Body found dumped on golf course

The hunt for a killer who battered and strangled a woman before dumping her naked body on a golf course was continuing yesterday.

The victim has been identified as Miss Deirdre Sainsbury, age 29. Her body was found near the sixteenth green at Denham Golf Club, Buckinghamshire, on Sunday, but detectives do not know why she was killed.

Police know that she left friends in Dulwich, south-east London at lunchtime on Saturday, but do not know where she was going or how her body came to be at the golf course.

A woman walking her dog saw what she thought was a tailor's dummy in a tiny copse near the sixteenth green, but paid little attention to it. A few hours later she returned and discovered the body, partly hidden under trees and in undergrowth.

Police are convinced the body was taken in a vehicle to the golf course. Forensic evidence indicates that it was dragged up a leaf-strewn mound and into the undergrowth.

Dr Stephen Cordner, Home Office pathologist, told Thames Valley Police that the woman had been battered about the body and head before she was strangled. When last seen Miss Sainsbury was wearing a fur hat, green nylon anorak, and dark green Army baggy trousers.

Peking holidays at cut price

China is allowing package holiday price cuts to help fill hotel rooms in Peking this spring. A seven-night holiday in Peking and Moscow is being offered by P & O Air Holidays from £395 as a complete package. The cut price is possible because the company is using the "diplomatic" air route to Peking via Moscow, filling usually empty seats.

The stopover in Moscow includes a tour of the Kremlin and Red Square.

Jenkin to review GLC theatre sale

By Joe Ravitch

The transfer by the Greater London Council of three theatres to the Theatres Trust will be scrutinized by the Department of Environment next week in a review process that could portend the future of all assets at present controlled by the council.

The department has insisted that the decision of whether to approve or reject the proposed sale will be made only "in the interest of the successor authorities."

Under the Paving Act of 1984, the council cannot transfer property or contract for goods or services worth more than £100,000 without the consent of Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The council owns more than 12,000 buildings and monuments in London, ranging from Covent Garden market to Cleopatra's Needle. Mr Peter Pitt, a council spokesman, claims that the sale of theatres had been planned for a long time, and is meant to "preserve London's cultural heritage".

Opposition council spokesmen have alleged that the sale of the theatres, the Garrick, Lyric and Lyceum, valued at £2 million, for £1 each is only the first of many attempts by the council to "dump" its assets in order to keep them under Labour control rather than let them revert to Conservative-controlled councils after abolition in 1986.

Plan for computer guard

A new job as computer guard has been proposed by Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, West Midlands, to protect its computer records.

The proposal follows a report from Mr Tony Williams, the council's chief finance officer, which has raised fears that computer hackers may soon be defrauding their rate bills by plugging into town hall systems.

The hackers, home computer owners who break the computer-user codes of big organizations, can infiltrate systems and take out or create records. Mr Williams says that once

inside town hall computer systems the hackers can gain confidential information about neighbours, or council business, and put in messages saying they have paid their rates when they have not.

The guard would go on "hacker watch" by making regular "electronic patrols" on the council's computer lines and data records.

Mr Williams, who is in charge of computer security, says: "The job needs a full-time specialist, who can ensure all private information is kept secure."

Post-1919 houses gain most value

Homeowners in the South are seeing the value of their properties grow nearly twice as fast as those in the North. Figures published in *Housing Market 84* by the Anglia Building Society show that average house prices in the North rose by 5.6 per cent during the year, compared with 10.5 per cent in the more affluent South.

London, the Home Counties and the South-east have shown the biggest rises but the pattern has changed since 1983.

"This year has seen a fundamental shift in the housing market. For the first time in 10 years, modern post-1919 resale housing has risen faster in value than new housing. It is also the only category to show an improvement over last year's percentage increases," Mr Peter Moreton, the society's chief surveyor, said yesterday.

Pre-1919 property has undoubtedly been affected by the poor availability of improvement grants and the imposition in the summer of value added tax on building and improvement works," he added.

That trend is not evident in the south Midlands, however. In those counties new housing has increased in price by 10 per cent but post-1919 resales have increased by 18 per cent and pre-1919 resales by 21 per cent.

'Mad dog' who boasted about his killings

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Like many other men with awesome reputations, there is little to distinguish Dominic McGlinchey, jailed for life in Belfast on Christmas Eve for murdering the mother of a police officer.

At 30, his prematurely balding hair was streaked grey and the orange, white and green of an Irish tricolour, tattooed on his left arm, proclaimed his loyalty and identity.

Nothing unusual in that for a man born, one of seven brothers and four sisters, into a strongly republican family in Bellaghy, Londonderry.

But his desire for a united Ireland went far beyond the traditional hard-line republicanism endemic in areas like south Londonderry, where he was to take part in terrorist attacks with one of the most ruthless gangs spawned in the present troubles.

To the security forces, McGlinchey was a determined, ruthless and resourceful terrorist able to instil fear into subordinates, who dubbed him "mad dog". To detectives who have seen him at close quarters he is believed to be psychopathic.

Such was the anxiety of the police to capture him that in the mid-1970s they issued a wanted poster and in 1982 the RUC Special Branch operated in the Irish Republic in an undercover



Dominic McGlinchey: Jailed for life.

The Irish Supreme Court decision this year to order the extradition of Dominic McGlinchey indicated that the judiciary in the republic was redefining what constitutes a political offence after 15 years during which the issue has bedevilled Anglo-Irish relations.

Extradition, or the lack of it, has caused great resentment among Unionists in the north, who have demanded it as proof that the republic is not a haven from which terrorists can plan and launch their attacks.

Throughout the present troubles, the republic's courts had refused to return people wanted in the north for alleged terrorist crimes once they said their action was carried out for political reasons.

Francis Hughes, who died on hunger strike, was found to be involved in the construction and planting of at least 30 bombs, in 20 shootings and 12 armed robberies.

In an interview in the *Sunday Tribune* newspaper, which McGlinchey later denied giving, he allegedly admitted involvement in about 30 murders, 200 bombings - including the Ballykelly discotheque bomb in which 17 people died - and giving a gun to a person

involved in the killing of three worshippers at a pentecostal church in South Armagh.

In the article McGlinchey allegedly said: "I like to get in close, to minimize the risk to myself. It's usually just a matter of who gets in first and by getting in close you put your man down first."

In 1977 the police in the republic had enough evidence to arrest him in Co Monaghan and he was jailed for four and a half years after being convicted of hijacking a police car, possessing a pistol and resisting arrest.

While in jail unhappiness with the political strategy of the Provisionals during the hunger strike made him leave them and join the Irish National Liberation Army, military wing of the Irish Republican Socialist Party.

McGlinchey's luck ran out on St Patrick's Day this year. He was trapped by his wish to see his two young sons, who were spotted by the police in the republic and put under surveillance.

Inside the house where he was found was an arsenal containing 14 guns and 600 rounds of ammunition. Eighteen hours later he was in the hands of two RUC officers - the first person extradited from the south to Northern Ireland for terrorist offences.

Beating the IRA, page 8

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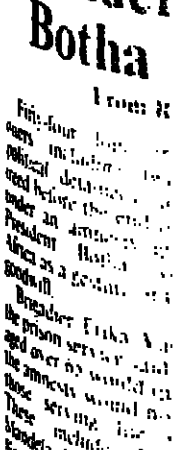
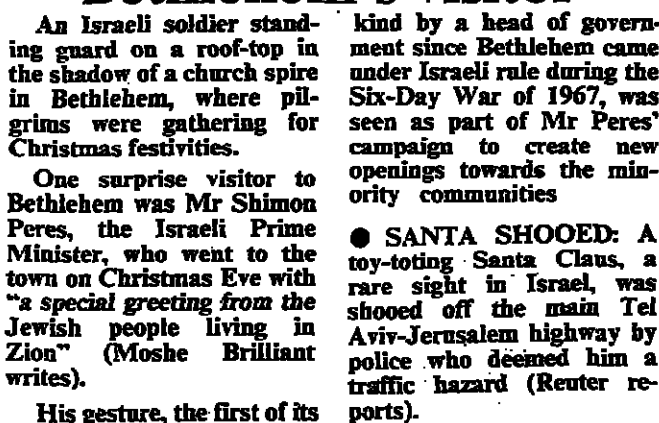
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27th December, 1984

head bank

interior Ministry post held by Mr Mintoff

Sources said Mr Mintoff who resigned on Saturday, would become governor of the Central Bank of Malta, a post which has been vacant for many years, and would also head the Government's oil division (which is responsible for exploration)



Grim future for Afghanistan five years after Russia invaded

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi

Five years ago today the Russians invaded Afghanistan, seized Kabul and installed Mr Babrak Karmal as their puppet ruler. For the invaders, for the guerrillas fighting them, and for the West, the political and military essentials of the conflict have not changed much since 1979, and it is hard today to be anything but pessimistic about the long-term outcome. The Russians are determined to remain and the *mujahidin* guerrillas are just as determined to drive them out. The country is ravaged and fifth of its people live as refugees in Pakistan.

The Afghan regime is unstable, the ruling party riven by murderous feuding between its Parcham and Khalq factions. The Afghan Army is, as ever, a demoralized force, replenished by desperate and unpopular conscription drives and drained by desertion.

Meanwhile, the *mujahidin* are unable to unite to offer a plausible government in exile. And this disunity, or independence, is reflected in Afghanistan itself, where resistance groups cling to tribal loyalties more ancient than this young war, and pursue old quarrels as well as fight the Russians.

At the same time, the Russians take the long view and evidently believe that massive force and relentlessness will prevail.

This year was meant to be a military watershed. A Russian and Afghan offensive took and held the floor of the Panjshir valley, north-east of Kabul, a strategic area and the scene of many battles, but the offensive failed to deal a decisive blow to the guerrillas.

The *mujahidin* have been fighting back, overrunning army posts and forcing the withdrawal of Russian troops.

A familiar pattern can be expected to continue: some Afghan troops will go over to the guerrillas, and some *mujahidin* will be killed.



Mr Karmal: Plagued by party feuds.

din will "surrender", join the militia, and then go back to the resistance, clothed, fed, and armed.

In the past, winter caused a fall off in the fighting, but there are signs this year that many guerrillas are not hibernating. Conditions are tougher, but the weather limits the activity of helicopter gunships, the *mujahidin*'s great enemy, and the guerrillas are mounting attacks on power lines and supply convoys.

There has been an increase in attacks in and around Kabul in recent months. Bombs and rockets have damaged the airport, broadcasting installations, the Soviet Embassy and homes of senior Russians and ruling party members.

In September the Afghan airline's only DC10 was badly damaged by a rocket as it landed.

This is one of the changes in the war: the *mujahidin* now have some ground-to-air missiles. Naturally, they say they need more.

The question of arming the *mujahidin* remains delicate and crucial. Money from the United States and some Gulf countries is funnelled through Pakistan and, after going through a shadowy purchasing system, is translated into small arms.

If there is any hope of Russian withdrawal, and it is slim, it would lie in a thaw between Russia and the West. Thinking about Afghanistan needs to go beyond withdrawal.

Five years on, the Russians are talking tough. They may, as Tass indicated recently, increase their occupying army of about 115,000. Losses are bearable and, unlike the Americans in Vietnam, the Russians are under no pressure at home. Meanwhile, the people of Afghanistan continue to suffer.

● **EX-KING'S MESSAGE:** The former king of Afghanistan, Mohammad Zahir Shah, who lives in exile in Rome, sent a message to mark the anniversary of the invasion (Hazrat Teimourian writes).

The resistance was "bereft of effective outside help", but the Russians had failed to bring more than a quarter of a country under permanent occupation. But because of repeated bombardment of irrigation channels and dams, Afghanistan was threatened with catastrophe, he said.

The former king appealed to "the free world and especially neighbouring Islamic countries" to provide the resistance with effective support.

Sri Lanka drops Tamil peace effort

From Our Special Correspondent Colombo

President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka has suffered a severe setback with the collapse of his efforts to find a political answer to the Tamil secessionist problem.

Confronted by the objections of Tamil leaders, the influential Buddhist clergy, some of the ruling party and the main opposition party, the government yesterday dropped proposals to give Tamils a degree of devolved power.

For the Tamil minority what was offered was not enough. For the Sinhalese majority it was too much.

No one doubts that the president's chances of finding a political solution to the Tamil question, and ending the terrorist campaign, have thinned drastically.

Faced with some dissent in his own party and Cabinet, the president sacked Mr Cyril Mathew, the industries minister and a leading Sinhalese militant, who had spoken out against the devolutionary ideas.

Meanwhile, Tamil separatists who kidnapped two police inspectors yesterday demanded a ransom of £166,000 in gold. The Sinhalese officers were captured last week at the railway station in Jaffna, the chief city of the predominantly Tamil North.

Philippines opposition in unity deal

From Keith Dalton Manila

Philippine Opposition leaders yesterday pledged to support a single presidential candidate and agreed on a common programme, including the removal of US military bases and legalization of the Communist Party.

The attempt at unity was prompted by continuing reports that President Ferdinand Marcos, who is 63, may not survive until the 1987 presidential elections. It is an attempt to minimize the danger of a last minute scramble for power by Marcos opponents, who have been out of office for 19 years.

The nine-page agreement was signed at the suburban house of Mrs Corason Aquino, widow of the murdered Opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, by nine possible presidential contenders or their representatives, backed by influential business, church and professional groups.

Mr Salvador Laurel, president of the 12-party alliance, Unido, and former Senator Eva Estrada Kalaw, of the Liberal party, did not sign. The selection was denounced as arbitrary and elitist by Opposition MPs who had not been consulted.

The platform included respect for basic political rights, the drafting of a new constitution and an amnesty for 1,000 political prisoners.

Mandela excluded from Botha prison amnesty

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Fifty-four long term prisoners, including two elderly political detainees, are to be freed before the end of the year under an amnesty granted by President Botha, of South Africa as a gesture of Christmas goodwill.

Brigadier Erika Van Zyl, of the prison service said prisoners aged over 65 would qualify, but the amnesty would not apply to those serving life sentences. These include Mr Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress (ANC), who is aged 65 and has been in jail for more than 21 years.

She said the two political prisoners to be freed were aged 78 and 78 and had served most of their seven and eight-year sentences.

In another development, two trained ANC guerrillas have been shot dead and four others arrested in an operation mounted by South African police and the Air Force, according to a statement issued in Pretoria on Christmas Day.

Lieutenant-General H. G. de Wit, the acting police commissioner, said the operation, which was continuing, had been launched in the remote Ingwavuma area of northern Natal between the southern border of Mozambique and Swaziland.

General de Wit said the operation began on December 14.



Hare Krishna wedding: The heir to the Ford fortune, Mr Alfred Ford, aged 34, whose spiritual name is Ambarish Das, married Dr Sharmilla Bhattacharya, aged 29, in front of 1,000 guests in New South Wales yesterday.

Kadar walks the détente tightrope

Whatever the strain in relations at the present time between Nato and the Warsaw Pact, Hungary continues to promote the interests of détente by ensuring it continues a dialogue with the West. In the first of two articles, Richard Bassett, recently in Hungary, looks at the way Budapest's foreign policy expresses its desire to retain friendly relations with the West.

Hungary's party leader, Janos Kadar, has insisted on several occasions during the last two years that small European nations have an important role to play as a bridge between East and West. Since last year a political observers put the exact date as Vice-President George Bush's visit to Budapest in September, 1983 - Hungary has pursued an active foreign policy.

HUNGARY

Part 1

Even in the chill of last December, when the Warsaw Pact had broken off all arms control talks, Mr Kadar, in a visit to East Berlin, felt compelled to enunciate that there always remained "diplomatic possibilities of overcoming dangerous tensions". Since then, he has made his actions fit his words and no fewer than four Nato leaders have been his guests in Budapest.

Setting the pace was the visit of Mrs Thatcher in February, followed in April by the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Bettino Craxi, and two months later the West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl. Then it was the turn of Belgium's Prime Minister, Mr Wilfried Martens. During every visit, the issue of improving East-West relations was high on the agenda.

Not surprisingly, this policy, similar in content but very different in style to that of President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania, has drawn fire from the more hardline members of the Warsaw Pact. An editorial published earlier this year in the official Czech daily, *Rude Pravo*, accused certain unnamed allies of confusing national with international interests.

The attack was promptly countered by Mr Matyas Szoros, a Hungarian Central Committee member, who since the end of last year has been in charge of the country's foreign affairs committee. In a long speech reprinted in the official Hungarian press, he stressed the belief heard in many quarters of the Government that historical ties can always be pursued for the good of common interests and aims.

No better illustration of this attitude in practice was Hungary's position over the proposed visit to Bonn by the East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker, in the autumn. While *Pravda* fired off volleys of criticism, attacking inter-



Mr Kadar: Role as East-West bridge.

German relations and accusing Bonn of revanchism, the Hungarian weekly, *Magyarorszag*, published a long article condoning what it called "broad dialogue" between East and West Germany.

Despite the frosty rhetoric from Prague and Moscow - some would say perhaps because of it - the cancellation of the East German leader's visit brought Berlin and Budapest together. Such was their mutual support during this period that it is no exaggeration to talk of a Berlin-Budapest axis in foreign affairs.

However unequivocally Budapest states its desire for détente, Hungarian officials are quick to assert that Hungary remains a loyal and reliable

member of the Warsaw Pact and the tension in the political climate is blamed exclusively on Washington. The point was emphasized by Mr Kadar during his recent visit to Paris, though at the same time the visit illustrated his country's equally firm desire to appear reliable to the West.

For Hungary, détente is not just a political interest but an essential prerequisite for economic stability as the Hungarians develop more and more links with Western business.

Such links are viewed with interest in the Kremlin, and the Russians have insisted in recent months that Budapest integrate the Hungarian economy more into the Eastern bloc, a development which would inevitably mean, as more and more goods were sent East, less trade with the West.

But, even under this pressure, the Hungarian Government remains convinced it will preserve its dialogue with the West on an informal, as well as formal basis. As the recent visit to London of Mr Szoros showed, regular meetings at an informal level have already developed to complement the state visits to Budapest.

Even if the chill is not taken off East-West relations in the near future, Hungary will continue to walk with care the elaborate tightrope its active foreign policy has erected since last year.

Tomorrow: Budapest's new rich.

PHILIPS

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SPECTRUM

Cavalier with winning ways

The Times Profile:
John Francome

When the media closed in on bucolic Fontwell Park racecourse in Sussex on May 28 this year, they had come to capture a rare breed of sporting hero in his finest hour. And their quarry did not disappoint them. John Francome, shaggy mane of curls billowing out beneath his jockey's cap, urged the 10-year-old gelding, Don't Touch, home to the 1,036th victory of his extraordinary career and so broke Stan Mellor's all-time record for the number of winners ridden under National Hunt Rules.

The comprehensive coverage reflected the fact that Francome is much more than a record-breaking jockey. This dashing rider who has a seemingly cavalier attitude to authority, a cover-girl wife and an enviable life-style is also highly charismatic, and his every move is news in a far wider field than racing.

Twelve months on from Fontwell, however, those same television and newspapermen will, it seems, be preparing to cover a less happy Francome landmark - his last ride. For, while dismissing newspaper reports that he will retire before the end of the current National Hunt campaign, Francome says that after 15 years in the saddle "the odds are heavily" that this season will be his last.

'He is remarkable. He can turn his hand to anything'

Francome is the first to admit that National Hunt racing has been more than kind to him, and he says he will greatly miss the sporting camaraderie of "the winter game". But now as ever with an eye to the main chance, he is turning to the more commercially rewarding and glamorous world of the Flat as a trainer.

Twenty horse boxes have already been built in the yard next to his magnificent stone house in Lambourn, which Francome built himself with the hands that also guide a raw novice chaser over his first fences; and he has agreed the use of some neighbouring gallops across the lush Berkshire downs which are the finest in England after Newmarket.

Fred Winter, the leading trainer and former champion jockey, who has retained Francome throughout his career, is in no doubt that he will make an equally spectacular success of his new role.

"He is a quite remarkable person. He can turn his hand to anything", Winter says. "One of the reasons we get on so well is because we rarely talk horses. We can drive to the races and talk for two or three hours about anything and everything. John is interested in every aspect of life."

As the son of a builder in Swindon, life for Francome began in a fairly unremarkable way. There was no family connection with horses, but through a childhood involvement with pony clubs he graduated to show jumping where his natural empathy with horses revealed itself.

He was chosen for the British junior show jumping team in 1968 and won a gold medal at the European championships. A glittering career lay ahead, but in that particular branch of sport considerable financial

backing is a prerequisite to success at senior level and Francome was too independent to allow his parents to sacrifice everything for him.

He left school at 15 to work in a car-body repair shop. But the lure of horses remained and 12 months later he obtained a job with Winter through a friend, and the hard labour of stable life began.

There was a fairytale beginning - victory on his first ride, Multigrey, at Worcester. He was brought to earth when his next mount landed him in hospital with a broken wrist.

Winter, whom many still regard as perhaps the finest jump jockey of all time, is certainly among Francome's greatest admirers, but he recalls that at the beginning Francome could not ride a decent finish. He had to be taught to blend timing, rhythm and fitness at the business end of the race, in other words jockeyship allied to his natural horsemanship.

Thereafter his rise was steady rather than meteoric. Baby-sitting and car washing helped to supplement his income. The biggest obstacle to Francome's progress in the early days was his weight, which suddenly climbed by nine or ten pounds. He remembers taking a liberal dose of the notorious diuretics before riding a horse called Osceola for Winter. Doubled up with cramp, he was virtually a passenger on the horse's back and the experience unnerved him to such an extent that he seriously considered giving it up.

Fortunately, a dietician helped him to stabilize his weight and the talent flowered. Other stables began to notice the stylish West Country lad. With more and more rides coming his way he rose to become champion jockey for the first time in the 1975/76 season. He has topped the list five more times since then and recorded his fourth successive century and his highest ever total last season when he rode 131 winners.

In 1978 Francome rode Winter's outstanding horse, Midnight Court, to win the blue ribbon of steeplechasing, the Cheltenham Gold Cup. Among many other big-race triumphs, Francome also won the 1981 Champion Hurdle on Sea Pigeon. It was his handling of this idiosyncratic veteran, leaving his victory swoop until the last 50 yards, that provided one of the most exciting demonstrations of what many see as his greatest asset - his uncanny judgement of pace.

Winter, however, is adamant



Saddled with success: Francome has adapted show jumping expertise to racing pace

that it is his placing of a horse at a fence that gives him the edge over his contemporaries. Francome, Winter says, adapted his horsemanship and show jumping expertise to racing pace quite brilliantly.

This is also borne out by the fact that in a sport where broken bones are an everyday occurrence, in the past three seasons Francome has hit the ground about one, in twenty rides, about two-thirds the average casualty rate. Francome's ability to stay upright has brought him fewer injuries than many others - two broken arms and a dislocated shoulder being the worst of them.

Francome himself modestly puts this down to luck. "When you're lying on the ground after a fall it's just a question of whether one kicks you in the head or the back or manages to avoid you", he says. "I know that tomorrow I could break my neck and spend the rest of my

life in a wheelchair." Unfortunately, controversy has often ridden in tandem with success throughout Francome's career. In 1978 he was fined £750 for passing on information

'My style of riding can make it look like I'm not trying'

to the flamboyant bookmaker, John Banks. "I said nothing to Banks that I would not have said in front of the governor", Francome says unrepentantly. Winter, as always, stood by Francome without question. Last season was by far the worst in Francome's career as far as brushes with authority were concerned. There was nothing he can think of to justify the initiation of what many saw as some sort of vendetta.

"Hardly a day went by without the stewards sending for me," he recalls. "They had me in three times in one afternoon at Newton Abbot. If they'd taken the trouble to look after the race they would have seen the horses had done enough."

Francome was referring to the fact that the inquiries usually concerned his alleged failure to ride a horse out to obtain the best possible placing. During this fraught period his belief that he was being victimized intensified when he was fined £75 for being too easy on Winter's bright young chasing prospect, Observe, at Newbury. Two weeks later he was fined an identical amount for hitting the same horse too hard when he won at Cheltenham.

"Let's face it," Francome says candidly, "my style of riding can make it look like I'm not trying. Nobody will give a horse a harder time than me if I

TRACK RECORD

Born: Dec 13, 1952
Maiden: June 26, 1976, to Miriam Strigmer
First win: Dec 2, 1970, on Multigrey at Worcester
1,000th win: Feb 29, 1984, on Observe at Worcester
Set all-time record for winners under National Hunt Rules on Don't Touch at Fontwell Park, May 28, 1984
Biggest wins: 1978 Cheltenham Gold Cup on Midnight Court; 1981 Champion Hurdle on Sea Pigeon
Career record: 1970/71: 4 wins, 1971/72: 19, 1972/73: 21, 1973/74: 30, 1974/75: 70, 1975/76: 96, 1976/77: 88, 1977/78: 83, 1978/79: 94, 1979/80: 89, 1980/81: 105, 1981/82: 120, 1982/83: 108, 1983/84: 131.

think it will win the race, but I don't have to pick up my stick to know how tired they are."

John Jenkins, the prolific young Epsom trainer for whom Francome rode an unprecedented spate of winners at the start of this season, sees Francome's quiet style as his best attribute. "John doesn't punish a horse needlessly like some jockeys if it has no chance. They last a lot longer if he rides them."

One answer to the cynics is Francome's strike rate. Before this season he had a career record of 22.1 per cent winners from rides - better than twice the average. In the first half of

'I don't give a damn what people think about me'

this season he has already ridden the fastest 50 winners ever.

Apart from his style, which can make winning look breathtaking in its simplicity and contemptuous in its execution, it is Francome's outspoken attitude that has often been his downfall. After the succession of inequities and fines, Francome spoke at the Derby Awards luncheon last December and, referring to the current craze for Cabbage Patch Dolls, said: "We've had Cabbage Patch Kids for years, we call them 'stewards'. The remark brought the house down. A few weeks later Francome received a fine of unprecedented severity for a relatively trivial offence at Newbury. He dropped his hands in the last 50 yards on a horse called Easter Lee and narrowly lost second place. He had no chance of catching the winner and the horse appeared to have given his all. But the fine was of £2,500, the maximum allowable under Jockey Club rules.

Hard on the heels of the Newbury affair, Francome had to negotiate another major obstacle. The Daily Mirror obtained tapes of phone conversations which allegedly proved Francome had broken the Rules of Racing. Francome won a High Court injunction to stop their publication.

Francome is unperturbed by disgruntled punters who give him a rough ride if they think he has ridden a bad race. "Punters always think the last thing that's at fault is their judgement", he says. "I don't give a damn what people in the stands say about me."

His frankness is often mistaken by outsiders for arrogance but inside the sport he is universally respected for his talent and well-liked, particularly by the other jockeys. So when National Hunt racing mourns the loss of a favourite son, the Flat can look forward to gaining one.

John Karter
Racing editor



Francome with his wife Miriam, his first victory on Multigrey in 1970 (centre) and his 1000th win in 1984

moreover... Miles Kingston

Exclusive - complete text of last night's BBC Christmas special! Scene: A TV studio. Close-up of Terry Wogan.

Wogan: Hello there, and consider yourself welcome back to "The BBC In Need" - the programme that aims to raise the missing £7 million which we need just to keep the old place going. And I've just heard that the total you've pledged has gone up again! Drunken cheers off-screen. Thank you, gentlemen of the orchestra. And I'm going to ask Lumley to read out the new total.

Lumley: The new total is £457, Wogan.

Wogan: And that leaves a little over £6 million to get. Now, here's a pledge from a viewer in Yorkshire who promises £1 million to see a programme without Terry Wogan on it.

Could this be a certain R. Harty, I ask myself? Anyway, your wish is granted.

Wogan rises and leaves the screen. He is replaced by Terry Hutch, Producer-General of the BBC.

Hutch: I don't think we actually made The Thorn Birds ourselves, but you get the idea. And to continue this work we need your money. Here's Professor Ivor Crewe with the swingeometer to show you just where all the money goes.

million if the Producer-General takes all his clothes off! Hutch: You obviously still don't quite die. Drunken cries of "Get 'Em Off!" Now let's go round the regions to see if there any still left. Cut to a studio labelled Radio Mid-West. A man dressed as a giraffe is sitting on a sofa. He speaks indistinctly.

Giraffe: Kerfuffle kerfuffle here at Radio kerfuffle magnificent effort kerfuffle no less than £7,000!

Hutch: That's great. And if you can get that £7,000 on a motorbike for Wood Lane at once, it will solve a lot of problems - we're running out of Beaujolais! Lumley: And we've just had a pledge from a viewer in Basilidon to donate another £10 if I take my wig off. She removes her wig to reveal another wig.

Wogan: Still a few wigs to go, believe me, gents. Now I have with me a fabulous writer Spike Milligan, who many think should be the next Poet Laureate. Have you in fact written a poem for tonight, O Spike?

Milligan: Not exactly, but I thought I'd make one up as I went along. "I sent my money

in a sack. Along to dear Auntie, Who gave one half to Wogan T., and half to Russell Harty. Wogan: Ouch. And the total now is... £2,345,609, plus £50 if Robin Day agrees to take all his bow tie off.

Day: Certainly, if you call me Sir Robin.

Hutch: And we've just heard that "Sergeant Bilko" has been sold to Afghanistan Television for a hundred roubles an episode!

Cut to Clive James. James: Sir Robin Day couldn't take his bow tie off, actually, as it contained a large microphone, and Robin Day without a microphone is like Esther Rantzen without molar.

Screams of laughter. Here's another extract from "The BBC In Need", showing that if Britain has the best telly in the world, it also has the worst. Cut to a group of Japanese, screaming in agony and humiliation as they are forced to watch "That's Life".

Hutch: So it's almost time to leave. "The BBC In Need", but not before a message from a viewer in the North who wants to know if, for £100, we will

BODY QUIZ ANSWERS

Here are the answers to Monday's Body Quiz. The full quotation is: "In the spider web of facts many a truth is strangled." Paul Eldridge from his book *Horns of Glass*. The answer to the question is: "Emperor Menelik II. The dynamic and resourceful creator of modern Ethiopia was in the habit of nibbling a few pages of the Bible whenever he became ill. In December 1913, while recovering from a stroke, he ate the entire Book of Kings and died."

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: CAVE ART

Safety first

An international conference of specialists in Ice Age cave-art, held in November in Périgueux, France, laid particular emphasis on the problem of degradation, conservation and public access. Since Lascaux and, more recently, Altamira, were forced to close their doors to tourists for the sake of the art's survival, great progress has been made in the task of preserving this fragile and rare resource while allowing the public as much access as safety permits.

Certain caves simply can never be visited by the public in some cases, water or narrow passages make access difficult and even physically dangerous; more often, conditions are such that the art is too vulnerable to accidental or malicious damage.

Vandal patrol

Many figures have been damaged deliberately by being pelted with clay covered with graffiti, or even carefully obliterated. In 1982 one man was caught trying to remove - for his private collection - a bison-head from the magnificent sculptured frieze at Angles-sur-Ming, now irreparably damaged. The worst problem is that of forced access into locked caves by those who feel they have the right to pass anywhere without permission: many sites, decorated or not, have their doors broken down with monotonous regularity, and not even steel gates and concrete are much help against the modern cutting equipment and explosives that are sometimes used by trespassers. In France there are now four surveillants de grottes, or patrolling guards.

In the past, speleologists tended to receive the blame for most of the damage and break-ins, but there is no reason to suppose they include more vandals than any other group. Indeed, archaeology has a tremendous debt to speleologists, who have made almost all the cave-art discoveries of recent years, as well as finding cave burials and other sites. Nevertheless, even with the best intentions, it is possible to do enormous damage to a prehistoric site if one is unaware of the correct precautions needed, and in the past speleologists have destroyed Ice Age footprints and other remains by not keeping to a single path. The answer, of course, is contact between prehistorians and cave-artists, with explanation of the issues involved, and this is now the norm in cave-art regions.

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Racing editor

caused by the tourists, but chemical analysis has shown that it was, in fact, water trickling from the mountain surface above, and it is believed that a change of vegetation led to this flow: pasture was abandoned to trees, and the resulting thick soil layer was a big reserve of water. The same had clearly happened at other periods of history, and traces of similar ancient water flows can be seen in the cave. Thus, careful watch is now being kept on the vegetation above decorated caves: for example, infrared aerial photographs of the hill of Lascaux show its thermic zones.

Lascaux is particularly at risk, since it is quite close to the surface. A forest fire on its hill could close leaving, consequently, and a number of other factors are causing concern, such as the forest clearance for new car parks built on the hill for easy access to Lascaux II.

People peril

A "healthy" decorated cave can cope with the brief change in temperature caused by visitors, but of course frequent crowds have a more durable and potentially harmful effect on temperature as well as on the level of carbon dioxide. Careful monitoring of the number of visits and visitors has therefore been carried out for some years: the "top ten" public caves in France receive tens of thousands of visitors annually, with the highest (70,000) recorded at Pech Merle. The great majority of such visits are crammed into the period from June to September, and groups of 20 to 25 people seem to be the norm, with the number of groups per day sometimes limited. Regrettably, studies suggest that this is excessive, not only because of the effect on air and temperature, but also because a guide simply cannot control and watch so many people.

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Distant views

It is necessary to provide alternative means of "visiting" caves. There are several ways of doing so - in books, slides, television, video cassettes (as at Altamira) and films; the Centre of Prehistoric Art at Le Thot, Dordogne, provides admirable facilities of this kind, and huge advances have been made recently in the photography of cave-art. The art of the future is also reaching new heights, and the prime example is Lascaux II (see The Times July 5 1984) which has already been visited by 350,000 people since it opened in July 1983. The technology which produced it is already almost obsolete, and even more accurate reproductions can and will be made. The use of infra-red distance meters, of lasers and of stereophotogrammetry to produce minutely detailed reconstructions of cave-contours or of 3-D figures enables exact replicas to be made without even touching the surfaces in question.

Paul Bahn

Water watch

It is not only the vandals or the micro-organisms carried in by the visitors (as at Lascaux) which damage the art. When water begins to flow down the "Salon Noir" of the cave of Niaux in 1978, carrying away paint and destroying figures, blame was first laid on condensation

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CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 529)

ACROSS

8 Imprisonment (13)

9 Weapon (3)

10 Spanish Fascist (9)

11 Futuristic writing (3,2)

13 Refuse (7)

16 Looking at (7)

19 Nearby pub (5)

22 Completely (9)

24 Anger (3)

25 Wealth seeker (7,6)

DOWN

1 Essential elements (6)

2 Large prawns (6)

3 Wall screws (8)

4 Vendor (6)

5 Obtain (4)

6 Two-piece bathers (6)

7 Teltale (6)

12 Employers' alliance (1,1,1,1)

14 More than ample (8)

15 Ocean (3)

16 Confusion (6)

17 Bear (6)

18 Ship's kitchen (6)

23 Friend (4)

20 Hole (6)

21 Stupor (10)

22 Metro (4)

23 Notable (4)

24 Nerve (4)

25 Raft (4)

19 Inlet (4)

20 Squaw (4)

21 Efficiency (4)

22 Christmas (4)

23 Raft (4)

24 Inlet (4)

25 Raft (4)

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Our improbable literary genius

Forty years on, and a kind of controlled explosion has taken place in the brewing of James Boswell's life as a historical event. The first of Frederick Pottle's *Life*, ten fat volumes of Boswell's Private Papers have been made public from the famous "ebony cabinet of Auchinleck" (including the lubricious and entertaining *London Journal* which became an international best-seller in 1950). Now comes the second substantial volume of Boswell's "official" *Life*, written by Pottle's protégé Professor Frank Brady. Volume one, *The Earlier Years 1740-1769*, published by Pottle in 1965 is currently re-issued, and together they

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Throughout, there is the irrepressible Boswell of the *Journals*. He solemnly pledges sobriety under "a venerable Devonshire yew tree" - not more than six glasses of wine at a

time. He fantasizes to friends about his coming greatness: "Monstier, il ne me manque que la base. Je suis déjà la statue". He tangles himself in increasingly ludicrous sexual escapades, told like notes for a One Act play: "Tedious delay waiting for the door to open. Man in closet. Wonderful presence of mind: bade him to *be to it*. Man off. Going, but allured back. Twice." (Something of Mr Jingle there?)

Yet it has to be said that Brady's powers as a biographer (rather than those as a diligent scholar) are insufficient to orchestrate these vast materials, either dramatically or psychologically. His book is often diffuse in texture, repetitive, and episodic. Boswell is always getting out of hand. "It is the biographer's despair," Brady writes in a revealing aside, "that Boswell's fluctuations in mood so faithfully resemble those

And certainly James Boswell is not diminished by this mighty collective effort by the learned doctors of Yale: he has become, in fact, a sort of closet Dickens of the eighteenth century. But what we need now, more than anything, to enshrine his "preference on Parnassus" is surely a good, single-volume selection from the *Journals*, to join the *Tour* and the *Life*. That would be a true alembic, mon.

Yet in many ways the novels he wrote in the Fifties and early Sixties represent the peak of his achievement. They are more controlled than his earlier fiction. Some of the froth has evaporated. The books are closer to real, frequently grim, experience. Wit is not absent – there are few wittier novels than *Position at Noon* (1958) and *The Merry Muse* (1959), of which

On his own admission also, he was "subject to a weakness which has betrayed my fellow-countrymen. I have not always been able to find, in my writing, a total satisfaction for my natural appetites. . . ." This has contributed to his devaluation; unjustly, it is, as he suggests, a "characteristic, true of Scott, Stevenson, Byron, Norman Douglas as well as Linklater. But I am not sure that it isn't better for the novelist to be a man of the world and a man of affairs than to shut himself up in his ivory tower. It needn't show lack of respect for his art. It didn't in Linklater's case; he was a writer through and through.

Mr Parnell's treatment of the books is thorough, fair, and frequently enlightening. Though he is a Senior Lecturer in English he eschews barbarous jargon. The result recalls the sympathetic and sensible way in which Christopher Sykes dealt with Waugh's fiction in his biography.

The name of Waugh keeps

breaking into this review, and that is fair enough. They were friends; they took a very similar view of writing; they were even similar in character. Both liked to play the crusty and irascible colonel, building up a character part that served as a carapace to conceal insecurity and a nature that could easily be hurt. In both it became apparent that they were natural. Both were depressed, high spirits and depressed. Both drank heavily, but not destructively. Both led a vagrant youth, married a much younger wife and settled in the country. Both became soldiers rather than bureaucrats in war.

The chief merit of Mr Partell's biography, apart from the mass of information it has given us, is that it brings the man Linklater to life. His selection of quotation is judicious and his judgement generous. It is a good biography because he likes and admires his subject without being blind to his faults. He has had, it is clear, an unselfish co-operation from Mr. Marjor Linklater and his children. He gives a good picture too of literary life before the advent of the mass-media changed everything. I could have done with more details about sales and money. Even so, it is extraordinary to reflect today that Rupert Hart-Davis published 2000 copies of a collection of short stories, *Sealskin Trousers*, and was a bit disappointed to sell only 16,000 in four years.

If there was almost too much action for Jane Austen in Australia, Joan Aiken has the atmosphere at Mansfield exactly right. Almost nothing does happen in Austen novels, there is a ball, a picnic, love, and marriage. The language has the right echoes and overtones, and the whole is delightful. Whatever happened to those nice young people in *Northanger Abbey*?

The fix in Pagett Hall's delightful first novel is that Good Ole Boy Al K. Hall. Most of the characters, popping in and out of the novel, are something like him. Some are, of course, ought to be somewhere else, doing something more creative than sinking their beers and their bourbon. Take pumman Clyde, for example: has he really got nothing better to do than struggle out of the harness of his wooden leg in an attempt to make a nation of his? Or Mammy? And what about Simons? Shouldn't he be down the road at Bluffton Elementary? What's he doing in bar anyway? The kid's only twelve, for Chrissake!

ments of her private life (treated with firm brevity), certainly n

Any doubts about the cat in Langley that acted as a sheep-dog or the drunken leading lady singing *Ave Maria* in Blackpool are stilled by the thought that odd things probably happen naturally to someone with such a sense of the ludicrous. Her account of getting lost backstage at the National and suddenly arriving on stage in *Tamburlaine* ("a lot of people in gold, and I didn't recognize any of them") is classic.

My one big complaint is that there is no index; I can remember so many good things I cannot now find. But apart from odd details like the casting of Joseph's role in *The School for Scandal* and captioning as the Duke of York's Theatre what is plainly the St Martin's, the editing is mercifully more alert than in Michael White's new memoirs. And these cover a wider range than most. How many people suspected that Marlene with her "ce-rings" or Momi in *Educating Archie* would adapt fit she is now mainly thought of as a serious comedienne? Or that a dyslexic girl would become as much of a well-loved household name as a half-Peruvian boy with a stammer?

Drink pales into insignificance as a demon when set against the little green devil who devours the heroines created by Susanna Johnson and Kirby Fitzgerald. Miss Johnston's Vanessa needs every one of the five rehearsals of the book's title before she can break her sexual infatuation with an appalling film director, while Miss Fitzgerald's heroine, who is equally hopelessly caught in an obsessive interest in her neighbour from reaching its sickening conclusion. Neither book is particularly well-written or constructed. Both however throw some light on an emotion which does not recognize a season of goodwill.

Maltsev is sickened by it all. The "burden" is the despotism which rules the Soviet block; which produces a tyrannical officer "fouling up the morning like a dead mouse in a loaf of bread"; which makes Maltsev himself treat his men cruelly and in the end betray his friend Svezhnev.

This powerful book, smoothly translated, does not end Maltsev's story. Rybakov emigrated in 1976 and is now a journalist in Paris writing for emigre Russian publications. A sequel, bringing Maltsev to France, has already appeared in Russian, and Rybakov doubtless found material for further episodes when interviewing Soviet defectors in Afghanistan. The burden is no lighter.

[illegible]

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JAPAN DIARY

David Watts

Krisumasu for all

Tokyo Christmas is one of Japan's more successful imports. Almost devoid of religious meaning except for the tiny Christian minority of less than 1 per cent of the 120 million people, it's none the less a festival that neither Scrooge nor the Archbishop of Canterbury could seriously quarrel with. Scrooge would have been delighted by the enormous amounts of money that are made and no true Christian could object to the real joy that Krisumasu creates, whether or not its full religious import is understood by the millions of children who are as familiar with Santa as those in Europe and the United States.

Christmas really "arrived" in Japan in a spontaneous outburst of merrymaking in the Ginza, Tokyo's entertainment area, on Christmas Eve of 1953. That was the year that people had something special to celebrate, even though it had nothing to do with Bethlehem. The government had just issued a white paper decreeing that the wartime era of shortages and starvation was over. Japan was officially back on its feet.

Family flavour

One reason for the growing popularity of Christmas is that it fits in neatly with a purely home-grown season of celebration: year-end office parties called *bonenkai*. *Bonenkai* literally translates as "forget-the-year party," and most of the male participants get out to do exactly that, to the horror and fascination of their delicate and demure secretaries.

Lately, though, Christmas has taken on more of a family flavour. The transition took place as fathers, heading towards their traditional *bonenkai* pleasures, would stop and buy a Christmas cake. This year it is estimated that bakeries have produced something like five million Christmas cakes along with countless Christmas ice-creams and, for some reason, boxes of fried chicken which are heavily promoted on television to the jingle of bells.

It had to happen, Japan this year enjoyed its own officially designated *Santaland*. The first outside Santa's Northern European homeland, it is in the small town of Hida in the northern island of Hokkaido. Santa San no doubt felt at home there. Hokkaido is on the same latitude as Siberia and gets a fair share of snow.

Having a ball

Last night the ladies and gentlemen of the British embassy were nursing their bruises after their customary Boxing Day soccer games. There are separate games for both sexes and a good time is generally had by all. The whole thing serves as a warm-up for a much more serious five-a-side contest on New Year's Day.

This year there will be three embassy teams, two teams from the Hongkong and Shanghai and Barclays banks and a sixth team rather impudently called a "mishmash", but which none the less usually turns in a pretty good performance.

Sloping off

As well as marking the beginning of the year-end holiday season, Christmas also marks the start of the skiing season. This year its advent has been attended by Shinto and Buddhist ceremonies beseeching the gods to send snow in time for the climax of the holidays over new year, when Japan virtually closes down. After weeks of snow-free slopes their prayers, have been answered. Heavy snow was falling in the Japanese Alps and in the resort areas along the Sea of Japan by Christmas Eve.

Choral practice

Geisha girls are getting into the European spirit of things by joining in a performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. They have joined a chorus of about 5,000 which will perform the work - Japan's favourite piece of western music - to mark the opening of a new arena for the national sport, sumo wrestling, next year. Because they work in their clubs in the evening, where a few hours of relaxation can cost a corporation president anything from £300 up, the geisha must practice in the afternoons. Few can read music, let alone speak German, so it's a mammoth task memorizing the whole thing. Still, it gives them a new party piece to perform for their customers.

Box and box

The Dickensian image of Christmas is always good for British exports, from fabulously-priced boxed bottles of Scotch to choice teas and chocolate which sell for up to three times the British price. But it has been a good season for British television works as well. Recent weeks have seen the showing on prime time of *A Voyage Round My Father*, from John Mortimer's autobiographical work of the same name, and *A Christmas Carol* starring Albert Finney and Dame Edith Evans.

The week before Christmas Nagisa Oshima's superb film, *Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence*, set in a Japanese prisoner of war camp in Java in 1942 and starring David Bowie, was shown on television, coming closer to the message of Christmas than a dozen sermons. One would like to think that was why it was scheduled. Most likely it was because it had that magic word in the title.

Will Rajiv ravage the pundits?

With first results of the Indian election due tomorrow, David Butler considers the chances of a landslide for Mr Clean

New Delhi
Last Monday, for the first time in a life of election-watching, I saw votes being stolen, crudely and brutally. A sophisticated Delhi journalist had taken me 40 miles north to the Bagpat constituency of Charan Singh, India's prime minister for a brief period in 1979. We visited the five polling stations at random, and in four the fraud was blatant.

In one, a Charan Singh supporter was marking the ballot papers of the illiterate villagers. In a second the local headman, from the locally dominant Jat caste, sat intimidatingly by the booth and inspected the ballot papers of the overawed Harijans.

In a third we learnt that the Harijans had been told not to come: "Others would vote for them." In a fourth there were, allegedly, poll watchers for the other parties but on investigation all had switched to Charan Singh. The police and the polling officials did nothing.

Vote-stealing - like the oppression of the Harijans - is a disagreeable sight. Yet what we saw was not typical and, indeed, some of the Bagpat districts are to vote again following protests. I met many journalists who had scoured Delhi and its surroundings in search of a poll-day story without finding anything but free and open voting. And their experience is certainly far more representative than mine.

India is the largest democracy in the world. And it is a country that seems imbued with a universal zeal for politics. Even when an election is not in progress half the stories on the front pages of the Delhi newspapers are about party splits, cabinet crises, nomination rowns and state elections. Politics, like cricket, is a major spectator sport.

People who write premature

obituaries for democracy in India fail to realize how difficult it would be to eradicate their enthusiasm for voting, the demand to express a popular verdict. The zeal can be carried to excess, as I saw so vividly on Monday. But all over India patient queues waited outside the polling stations. Tomorrow's votes will be counted, for the most part, without controversy.

It is pretty clear that those votes will confirm the leadership of a 42-year-old airline pilot whose youth, novelty and remarkable dynastic heritage have catapulted him to an unassailable position. Rajiv Gandhi has everything going for him. There is sympathy for his mother's death, and appreciation of his "Mr Clean" image in a society where political corruption is endemic. There is a hopeful belief in a new start and in his pursuit of efficiency.

Rajiv represents both continuity and change. In a fissiparous country he seems to stand for the unity of India, combining all the virtues of the old regime with none of its vices. He also draws in a negative vote as the lesser evil. The opposition is a tired group of discredited politicians, lacking any clear issue or alternative ideology. Congress (I) may be equally tarnished but he personally seems uncontaminated. His all-Indian appeal reaches out even in this diverse, illiterate population.

Opinion polls have offered conflicting evidence about the outcome. But the largest - and the only one to offer India-wide figures - suggests that Congress (I) will get 53 per cent of the national vote and secure 366 of the 510 seats at stake this week.

Since the Congress Party has never before touched 50 per cent, not even in its heyday in the 1950s, or won more than 357 seats, this prediction excites incredulity among sophisticated political observers. After all, before her death Mrs Gandhi looked in serious danger of defeat. But the poll prediction could end up being an understatement for in the 20 days since the poll was taken the tide, it is generally agreed, has continued to flow Rajiv's way.

There are those who reckon however, that any Indian opinion will exaggerate support for those in power by 5 to 10 per cent, because of timidity or deference.

Political commentators have been shy of predicting a landslide, but the first-past-the-post system produces them all the time. Consider 1906, 1931, 1945 or 1983 in Britain: 1958 or 1984 in Canada, 1966 or 1975 in Australia. Consider indeed 1977 and 1980 in India. No one anticipated the magnitude of the majorities that were achieved.

It is indeed clear that Rajiv Gandhi's triumph will not be complete. In West Bengal the very conservative Communist Party which rules the state will also keep most, if not all, of its Lok Sabha seats. In Andhra Pradesh the eccentric film-star premier, N.T. Rama Rao, will ensure the election of a number of his Telugu-speaking followers. In a scattering of very personal contests, independents and others will defy the Congress sweep. It was hard to imagine the voters of Bagpat reacting to the issues discussed in sophisticated Delhi. In the villages that we visited, caste and custom must surely prevail over national trends.

Tomorrow evening it will not be as easy as in Britain to guess the final outcome from the first result. But when a landslide is in progress, it does not take long to hear the thunder. We shall soon know if the polls have come a cropper, as in Truman's America or Heath's Britain, or if Rajiv Gandhi has been crowned as the third and most triumphant in his line.

There has been definite evidence in the past few months of a desire to India to remain India. When asked in the opinion poll about the key issues, 47 per cent put the unity of India first; 30 per cent chose inflation and 18 per cent corruption. A mere 5 per cent put regional autonomy first.

Every group seemed to react to issues in fairly equal proportions: urban and rural, Hindu and Moslem, men and women. Moreover, Congress (I) draws its support remarkably equally from all groups. Despite its ageing, disintegrating organization, the party is still the most powerful and ubiquitous force in India and somehow retains its popular appeal. With its new leader it seems to have revived.

People are swinging behind him hopefully, dreaming that he can liberate the country from its permeating corruption and muddle. India has long been a by-word for bureaucracy in the strict sense, for meaningless form-filling and perpetual buck-passing. The technocratic Rajiv is visibly impatient with his country's self-inflicted handicap. If he wins by a landslide, he will be his own man, not just his mother's protégé and inheritor. But whether he or his advisers have the perceptiveness, or the power, to change deeply engrained national habits must remain an open question.

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The author is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

James Curran on the left's view of the Labour leader's new year

Kinnock: a threat to himself

Neil Kinnock's honeymoon period as Labour leader is about to end. Tony Benn is seriously considering whether to contest the party leadership next year. To do so would lead to a bitter and protracted internal struggle. Even if he wins back another left-wing candidate may well step in and force Kinnock to defend his position.

The main cause of this challenge is Kinnock's failure to give full support to the coal strike. The NUM has mounted the first determined opposition to the Government's unemployment policies and has remained remarkably solid in all but one of the five major production areas. But the strain is beginning to show: many miners' families have run up debts of more than £3,000 which will take years to pay off. In these circumstances, most party activists feel that Labour's leadership should be building public support for the miners and working behind the scenes to get greater union backing.

Of course, no leader of a democratic party could possibly condone picket line violence. The NUM leaders' failure to call a ballot is also a mistake. And Kinnock has put the case for the miners in many speeches and articles since the strike began.

But he has got the emphasis wrong. His reactions about the conduct of the dispute have emerged more strongly than his general commitment to the strikers' cause. This is not simply a product of biased media coverage. Kinnock could have shaped the headlines by doing newsworthy things on behalf of the miners. Yet, even at a time when the Archbishop of Canterbury has visited the picket lines and soup kitchens, Kinnock has preferred to stay away. In nine months he has spoken at only three major rallies with Arthur Scargill.

This cautious support has not won him public plaudits either. The latest MORI poll shows that his personal rating is significantly lower than support for his party. Indeed, approval for his performance as leader (32 per cent) is almost exactly on a par with support for the miners (31 per cent). His anxiety to court the middle ground of public opinion, going in this instance against all his instincts as a miner's son, has fuelled resentment within the party and weakened the miners' position with nothing to show for it. Kinnock has also stored up trouble for himself by over-identifying with Labour's right wing. On every contentious issue since his election as leader he has voted with the right-wing faction on the national executive. In the autumn clear-out of key NEC committees, he voted for all the candidates on the



right-wing list except one, when he abstained.

Kinnock's shift to the right has brought peace and tranquillity in the short term. He has revived an old formula for running the Labour Party which has worked successfully in the past, aligning all the competing power centres within the party on a centre-right axis and using trade union block votes to bring the NEC and party conference into line with the right-dominated Parliamentary Labour Party. But there are signs that this old formula will no longer work. Already, centrist trade unionists have broken rank more than once, leaving Kinnock dangerously isolated. On the NEC he failed to overturn the deselection of the right-wing MEP, Brian Key, because his centrist allies voted with the left.

Kinnock's attempt to get the rules for the reselection of Labour MPs

changed at the last party conference also blew up in his face because centrist unions defected to the left. The centre-left trade union block on which Kinnock now depends is much less reliable than the right-wing union bosses who shored up Hugh Gaitskell.

The left, in a significant change of tactics, is now getting ready to pull the rug from under Kinnock. Until now it has seemed traumatized by the scale of Labour's 1983 defeat and disarmed by the fear that continued internal bickering would help the Alliance. Its hitherto conciliatory approach has been reflected in its attitude to reselection. It has not attempted to organize a concerted, national move against right-wing MPs and instead has concentrated on getting left-wing candidates selected for marginal seats.

Kinnock's shift to the right and his attitude to the miners' strike is

slowly prompting a change. Yet even now many of Tony Benn's closest advisers are urging him not to stand against the party leader. Some suggest that a lesser figure should contest the leadership as a symbolic protest, while others call for an open contest of any sort should be avoided.

Kinnock could easily defeat a left-wing challenge. His meteoric rise split the old left alliance by enlisting many erstwhile Benn supporters. The left remains divided and demoralized. The Campaign for Labour Party Democracy, which spearheaded the Bennite campaign in the early 1980s, has lost many members. Even staff on *Tribune*, the independent Bennite journal, last week contemplated a split, while others planned an editorial attacking Benn's call for a general strike (although in the end it was not written).

While Kinnock's personal position is not threatened, however, he would be well advised to review his strategy. He is the first Labour leader to be elected by all sections of the party, rather than solely by Labour MPs, and for this reason possesses a special authority. He could potentially command the loyalty of most activists and turn it into a campaigning party aimed at shifting public opinion rather than fighting obscure internal battles. But to achieve this transformation, Kinnock will need to motivate his activists and revert to the centre-left ticket on which he was elected.

Admittedly he is in a difficult position. He must work effectively with the right-wing majority in the PLP and Shadow Cabinet. He must also win back lost voters, many of whose views are well to the right of Labour's right wing. A left-wing backlash could spell disaster at the next general election, however. Even if the left is weak it can still embroil the party in a long and self-destructive civil war. If this were to happen, Kinnock's central objective of winning back former Labour voters would be set at naught.

The way out of the dilemma is not easy. Kinnock should now seek to balance the different factions within the party by leading from the centre rather than the right. And instead of passively responding to the shifting middle ground of British politics, as in the miners' dispute, he should seek to close the gap between party and public opinion with courage and imagination. By a curious irony, the best way to achieve this is by following his own political principles.

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The author was editor of *New Socialist*, 1981-84, and is now head of the Department of Communications at Goldsmiths' College, University of London.

One killing only - for gamesman Jaffe

Jack Jaffe is worried that the British are not very good at games. He is a games inventor and not, he admits, over-employed. He spends most of this time thinking about games and at least some actually playing them, but selling a new game to a British manufacturer is, he calculates, approximately one thousand times more difficult than selling a first novel to a publisher.

So he no longer tries and has now produced and marketed two of his own board games. *Libido*, an inhibition - dispelling game about sexual attitudes, has sold "well into six figures" since 1971 and is still going strong, although only weeks ago Jaffe says he met a retailer who insisted that he could not stock it under the terms of his lease because it was a marital aid. In *Persona* players are invited to make uninhibited commentaries on each other's personalities.

Unlike *Continuo* (a variant on dominoes), *Mandala* (a variant on Ludo) or *Kensington* (a variant on *Boredom*), his new offering, *Save*

the President, will not be marketed under the self-awarded title *Game of the Year*. That is partly because Jaffe insists that he worked more than three years to develop it, and he thinks it should last at least half a century.

The game incorporates all Jaffe's favourite elements: a little chance, a great deal of skulduggery, plenty of opportunity to undermine other players' plays, uncertainty about everybody else's identity, let alone their next move, and no way of knowing who has won until the game is over.

It also includes, claims Jaffe, a whole battery of new play techniques. "It is a great British invention," he insists, "unmatched by anything found in the United States. Perhaps the most remarkable test is that it plays just as well for two as it does for three to six players, because the two-player game is different and more strategic."

The idea for *Save the President* sprang from a visit to Washington DC and the observation that the

city's streets, on a grid plan, were admirably suited to a board game.

The conception came two years before the attempt on President Reagan's life, but 16 after the assassination of President Kennedy.

To a serious games player, Jaffe suggests, events in the real world are not really relevant. "I am not by any means advocating that anybody goes out and kills anybody," he says, "but the most popular games of our time - video games - are practically all based on the idea of killing somebody. I wanted the same excitement with something a bit more to it than mere hand and eye coordination."

Jaffe is the founder of the Society of Inventors of Games and Mathematically Attractive Attractions (SIGMA) whose 30 members meet on alternate Sundays in Covent Garden to play at adult games collected from all over the world. (Among the most popular are *Acquire*, *Civilization* and *Scrabble* which, 50 years on, Jaffe concedes is still the best word game. But intelligent interest in

board games remains distressingly low. Recently he has been developing promotional business games for companies to use in marketing. The biggest and best, he complains, remain under wraps in corporate boardrooms.

A former journalist, Jaffe has perfected the rules of *Save the President* to what he describes as "exquisite clarity": "If there was a Booker prize for games rules, *Save the President* would win it."

But not only are there no Booker prizes for games in Britain, there are no reviews either. In America the magazine *Games*, now published by Playboy, sells more than a million copies a month. The French *Jeux et Stratégie* sells 150,000, and the German *Spielbox* prospers. In Britain *Games and Puzzles* magazine has disappeared. *Save the President* has just had its first review, in an amateur's duplicated "fanzine" called *Mad Policy* with a mailing list of perhaps a few hundred. At least the writer liked it.

Robin Young

Brian Crozier

Five steps to beat the IRA

Mrs Thatcher is often seen these days in the company of the Irish Prime Minister, Dr. Garret FitzGerald. They have met at summits in Dublin and at Chequers, at a funeral in Delhi, and another summit is in prospect. Relations between the two leaders were said to be cool after the Chequers meeting last month, but in general London and Dublin are closer than they have been for a long time.

Yet prospects of a joint strategy for defeating the IRA, as distinct from "improving security" and other such euphemisms for mere containment, seem as remote as ever. And no hopes of a new strategy for victory emerged in the Queen's Speech.

For 16 years successive governments have tried, with varying success, to contain the IRA. There has never been a firm commitment to defeating it. As a consequence terrorism continues with no end in sight. Being by definition fanatics, the terrorists will not give in merely because some of them might be captured and sentenced, not to death, but to a spell in jail.

The reasoning is clear. As Conor Cruise O'Brien has observed, the IRA godfathers hope that in the end, all political initiatives having failed, the British will simply pull out. The consequences would be dire: a civil war in the north, spreading to the whole island; an embittered Protestant enclave in Ulster, probably proclaiming its independence in a UDI of its own; and in due course, an offshore "Cuba" to provide a base for Britain's enemies.

At the Chequers summit Mrs Thatcher rejected a unified Irish, a confederation and joint authority and reaffirmed that Northern Ireland was part of the United Kingdom. There was a commitment to cooperation between the two governments in matters of security but it fell well short of a joint strategy.

Yet terrorism can be defeated, and needs to be if even the most ingenious and well-meant political initiatives are to have the slightest chance of success. If it is not, the brooding threat of further violence is guaranteed to stifle any attempts to reconcile bitterly divided communities.

In admittedly very different circumstances the terrorists of the Baader-Meinhof gang in West Germany and of the Italian Red Brigades have been defeated. In Uruguay, the Tupamaros were crushed 12 years ago, and it has taken that long for that little country to return to democracy. It is not straining the bounds of patriotism to believe that we could do better than that.

Just what would a strategy for victory in Ulster mean? First, taking the fundamental decision to go for victory, not containment, and secondly, facing the need for necessarily harsh and unpopular measures, for a limited period. The

IRA Provisionals are waging a war against the British authorities and the Protestant community. It is an internal war, not a civil war. The law does not, of course, recognize the concept of an internal war, but then the law often lags behind reality. In a conventional war against an external enemy the public readily understands the need for exceptional measures "for the duration", confident that any suspended liberties will be restored when hostilities are over. The British public accepted detention without trial under Regulation 18-B during the Second World War, yet full democratic rights were restored unimpeded when it was over.

In stark terms, a strategy of victory would mean:

● Detention without trial in Northern Ireland for longer periods than now permitted by the Prevention of Terrorism Act.
● The restoration of "interrogation in depth" of the kind which was approved (with one dissenting voice) by Lord Parker's committee in March 1972 as having brought unprecedented results and probably saved many lives (but condemned by a committee of inquiry under Sir Edmund Compton, whose views prevailed).

● Naval interdiction of arms supplies by sea, for instance from Libya.

● As proposed by Lord Denning after the Brighton outrage, the application of the existing death penalty for high treason. The advantage of this proposal is that it would avoid the need to press for a restoration of the death penalty through a reluctant House of Commons. The weakness of it lies in the fact that the many apprehended terrorists with Irish citizenship can hardly be charged with treason to the Crown. If no way can be found around this problem it would be necessary for the Government, if it decided to go for victory, to rally its supporters in the light of the fact that the public favours the restoration of the death penalty for certain crimes, even if the House does not.

The most controversial necessity of all, perhaps, would be the need to exert a "hot pursuit" across the border.

Ideally, such measures would require the full cooperation of the Irish government, which even under Dr. FitzGerald looks politically impossible. Whatever may be said publicly about joint efforts, the Republic shuns direct contact between its own and the British Army, even though the police forces cooperate up to a point. Moreover, the Republic's record on extradition leaves much to be desired.

A strategy of victory, therefore, would probably in the end imply unilateral British action, involving articulated outrage from certain sectors, including the United Nations. In other words, it would all be rather unpleasant. But then, so is terrorism.

Philip Norman

A rough passage to the movies

New York

David Lean's film adaptation of *A Passage to India* is showing exclusively at one of New York's smartest cinemas, the Ziegfeld on West 54th Street. As we had decided to see it on only the second night of its run, and being somewhat hardened to Manhattan movie-going, we arrived a full hour before the scheduled performance time. Already, two queues stretched almost the full block to Sixth Avenue. The first queue was for ticket buyers. The second consisted of those who had paid their \$5 and, with New York's characteristic regard for paying customers, had been herded to wait behind a blue police barrier.

It took 20 minutes in the first queue to reach the single ticket window, in a foyer easily able to accommodate all those outside were it not "policy" (a word never challenged here) that film and theatre audiences may not await the performance on the premises. Some effort, however, had been made to fill the empty space with uniformed ushers bawling "Have your money out when you reach the window!" and "No standing inside. The ticket holders' line is outside!"

The ticket holders' line waited 50 minutes, as meek in that penitential darkness as it would have been in a rainstorm or snow shower. Around us, we noticed the faces of prominent journalists, publishers and members of other opinionated professions. All shuffled together obediently when a guard with a loudhailer, passed by, barking, "Close up that line, folks. Close it up."

Eight minutes before performance time, permission was given for the customers to come in. The ticket holders' line surged forward like wagons in a nineteenth-century land rush. The over-crowded over-policed queue, of course, was instantly beyond control. In front of us, a further guard reared up, shrieking, "Hold the line here! We just got by. Our friend, visiting New York from Buckinghamshire, was left behind. 'Please,' we cried, 'He's with us.' Our friend somehow slipped through. 'I said 'hold that line,' the usher spat at the next customer. 'Don't move till I tell ya to move! Got it?'"

We arrived by packed escalator in an upper foyer where pandemonium surpassed all Foster's descriptions of the Chandrapore bazaar. There were frantic queues for the popcorn stand, the ladies' room and - more inexplicably - the telephones. More ushers moved against the tide, helpfully saying "Showtime in less than one minute!"

In the auditorium, the lights were already dimming, even though hundreds of people still had not found seats. We had been lucky to spot five together - two for late arriving friends - in an area which British cinema goes once used to call "the Nineties". Thick plastic debris and old popcorn, left by the previous house, crunched under our feet. As the credits rolled, the frantic scurrying and pleas of "are all the tickets?" grew more piteous. Our friends from Buckinghamshire remarked: "It's never like this at the Regal, Marlow."

A Passage to India is a terrible disappointment. David Lean, above all directors, has proved it possible to bring great literature to the screen intact. Here he was working with a book which, for all its subtle metaphors, is never less than utterly cinematic. Hollywood market forces, presumably, are responsible for the gratuitous shots of lancers and night mail trains, and the stubborn misinterpretation of Foster's characters and their motives. Thus, Aris, Quedan, and Professor Godbole become major characters while the relationship between Aziz and Fielding shrinks to a mere vignette.

Two or three of Foster's lines survive in a script whose lameness hardly matters since, to suit the American attention span, most scenes cut as soon as they have begun. The ending has been moved from Mau to scenic Srinagar. Gone is the wonderful coda when Aziz and Fielding try to embrace but their horses, like their cultures, swerve apart. In David Lean's version, Aziz writes sentimentally to Miss Quested: "So glad all that unpleasantness at the Malabar Caves is over."

Because we were an upmarket audience - and because this had been called "a dark comedy of manners" by the *New York Times* - the auditorium was relatively free of talk. Most movies here play against an uproar recalling the Saturday morning matinees of my boyhood. Nor was there detectable marijuana smoke. Upmarket New Yorkers, however, still drink noxious brown fizzy drinks and consume popcorn from outside tubs, imparting to the most hushed on-screen moments a sound like armies advancing over gravel. Being an upmarket audience, there was also an occasional "plop" as someone's jogger's stopwatch alarm accidentally went off.

When I first got to England, I know the first thing I'm going to do. I'm going to book a season ticket in perpetuity at the Regal, Marlow.

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IRA



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THE TIMES THURSDAY DECEMBER 27 1984

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THE ENTITY OF LONDON

In Acacia Avenue, NW all is still. The laurel bushes of London's suburbia have not disgorged Conservative councillors and parliamentarians banging the drum in support of the Government's proposals for the future of London government. On the face of it here is a puzzle. The Secretary of State for the Environment continues to aver that abolishing the Greater London Council is a boon for boroughs; it kills the "upper tier" and its imposts; it brings public services into proximity. But Hillingdon and Havering persist in their mundane worries about the disposal of waste, the green belt and grants. The Harrovians know their parish, and know the limits to the co-operation and joint boards on which the Government sets such store. And in all the boroughs and through the ranks of the capital's MPs runs a growing conviction that this bill is bad for London - yes, that entity does exist - and its easy rejection of the principle of direct election in the provision of public service is a dangerous thing at this phase of the nation's life. When Parliament reassembles in the New Year and the abolition bill proceeds through committee rectifying amendments should receive strong support.

The two strongest objections to the Local Government Bill's plan for London are these.

Whatever happens to administration, the Government cannot abolish London. Between Richmond and Hammersmith there are shared concerns (for example, the flight path into Heathrow). Denizens of the 32 boroughs share interests in transport, public safety and public health; there is an emotion, a culture that is London, which ought to be expressed through a political organ more local than parliament yet less parochial than the borough. Besides, however imperfect our system of property rates in aligning voting power and responsibility for tax-paying, that is no argument against the ballot box. Even the degraded politics of a directly-elected body are superior to the high-minded unaccountability of a quango.

Blueprints for directly-elected London-wide body abound. The Conservative group of GLC councillors have worked at this; Mr Cyril Taylor's Bow Group deliberations have influenced backbenchers. The functional responsibilities of such a body have precisely to be defined. Its ambit would be only those activities too large to be encompassed within a single borough - fire and civil defence, tourism, highways, waste disposal, the green belt, certain parks, concert-halls and museums. It ought to be a tight list, to include administration of

the debt built up over the years on the name of all London. Execution of functions, notably fire and waste, would be carried out day-to-day by agencies. The London-wide body might, for example, have access, for monitoring and informal auditing, to the accounts of that quango turned nationalized industry, Thames Water.

A GLC Mark II, ministers have exclaimed when offered such amendments. It certainly need not, and should not, be that. The experience of GLC Mark I has given enough ammunition to redefine more tightly the new body's role, protecting the citizens of London from bad spending, over-manning and political manipulation.

London's administration has always shown an untidy pattern in which the only consistent element has been the intense interest of Whitehall, and not only in public order. There is no reason why a reconstructed London-wide body should fit into any of the existing categories, with wide general powers to tax and spend; it would in any case be required to enter a close and continuing fiscal relationship with Whitehall. The government of the capital will always be anomalous. The passage of the abolition bill presents the opportunity not to remove the anomaly but to establish the necessary London-wide element on the sure footing of a direct franchise.

THE KREMLIN'S CHOICE

Last September an event occurred in Moscow which surprised even the most seasoned Western observers. The extremely competent Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, the chief of staff and a deputy defence minister, who had already distinguished himself by his ingenious attempt to exculpate the Soviet Union of the responsibility for the shooting down of the Korean airliner, was relieved of his post and despatched to command the Warsaw Pact forthwith on the Western front. What could his removal mean? Would the Russians be more or less ready to resume arms control negotiations as a result?

With the death last Thursday of Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, last September's events now take on a clearer aspect. Obviously Marshal Ustinov's fading health must have become apparent to the Soviet leaders. Faced with the possibility of the Defence Minister's portfolio falling into the hands of a proficient professional soldier (albeit a member of the Party) - someone who was clearly less than impressed by the intellectual grasp that his political superiors showed of complex military questions - the men in the Kremlin must have feared for their ability to retain total control over the armed forces, the lynchpin of the Soviet state.

Moreover, Marshal Ogarkov, in his writings, had put forward military doctrines at variance with the official policy of the USSR. He had argued in favour of a strategy relying less on nuclear weapons and more on conventional ones capable of making deep strikes into enemy territory. That in itself would not be terribly serious. But the fact he had in mind were to be found not in the West but in the East. His dismissal highlights the growing tension between the Party which would like to continue to formulate military strategy with a view to the

ideological struggle between the Soviet Union and the West, and the military, which would like far greater attention to be devoted to China, whom they believe to be the real enemy of the USSR.

The fact that Marshal Ogarkov still retains a senior position indicates that this conflict has been by no means resolved.

With Marshal Ogarkov out of the way, the three military contenders for Marshal Ustinov's post were the three deputy Defence Ministers: Marshal Sergei Akhromyev, the new Chief of Staff, Marshal Viktor Kulikov, the commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Pact forces, and Marshal Sergei A. Sokolov, who had already stood in for Marshal Ustinov on November 7 at the military parade commemorating the revolution. A fourth candidate was Mr Grigory Romanov, a civilian, a member of the Politburo, who has been responsible for the supervision of the defence industries.

Whoever was to succeed Marshal Ustinov would have to be someone prepared to be completely subservient to the wishes of the Politburo. Marshal Akhromyev clearly was such a man but his relative newness to the job precluded his rising even further immediately to take the Defence Ministry portfolio. Marshal Kulikov's appointment would probably have caused difficulties. In his case the members of the Politburo probably felt that they would find themselves permanently fighting a rearguard action in resisting the armed forces' demands for greater resources. Ideally the Kremlin would have preferred a civilian to hold the portfolio. But Mr Romanov probably did not want the job. He is one of the leading contenders for the general secretary's post, which is bound to fall vacant soon. He knows

that a powerful figure in the Defence Ministry, someone who already had extensive connections with the security forces, would lead to substantial sections of the party turning against him, fearing - as they have done so many times in the past - the emergence of a new "Bonaparte". As a result he would probably not have been in the running for the most coveted prize of all.

Ironically, the military probably did not want him either, but for exactly the opposite reason. They wanted to revert to the tradition of having a professional soldier holding the post. In the end the job went to the only remaining contender, Marshal Sergei Sokolov, who had previously been responsible for administrative, logistical and financial affairs within the Defence Ministry. Some observers believe that his appearance on November 7 showed that the decision had been made as early as that.

In view of his age - 73 - and his background he is not likely to prove too resistant to the Politburo's demand that he makes sure that military spending does not get out of hand. What the Politburo will want from him is a clearly worked out list of the needs of the armed forces which can subsequently be formulated into coherent negotiating positions at the arms control talks which are to be resumed in the new year.

On the other hand, in view of his age again, he is unlikely to be in charge of the Defence Ministry for very long. With Marshal Ogarkov (who clearly has a strong following within the armed forces) still holding a senior position and with the struggle for Mr Chernenko's succession continuing in the background, the new appointment will bring only a temporary lull in the fight for the right to determine Soviet policy for the coming decades.

PURE AND BLESSED FOOD

Not many begin a major meal with a blessing no doubt because "saying grace" too easily becomes the meaningless muttering of pious generality. It seems more honest to plunge straight into the feast. It is edifying, nevertheless, to recall the practices of Orthodox Jews in relation to food. Its preparation, from start to finish, is governed by a code of religious observances. The Jewish housewife, engaged in the special skills of her kitchen, is deemed to be performing religious as well as culinary rites. The very raw material she uses must be of a particular standard. And where meat is concerned, the rules are intended to show respect to the animal. The very restrictiveness of the kosher regime suggests that the killing of animals for human food is a dispensation from God, not a natural right of man, who must use the privilege carefully.

It is ironic, therefore, that from time to time animal welfare organizations seek to create a public fuss about the alleged cruelty of shechita. For in respect for animal life, the Jews were there first, and are still ahead. But it is also quite understandable that all sorts of emotions should be stirred by the subject of "ritual slaughter". Our very squeamishness at discussing whatever goes on in abattoirs is proof enough.

Islamic modes of slaughter differ from what might be called the secular mode in insisting that the animal should be healthy, and intact. To stun it, by electrical or mechanical means, is by definition to injure it before killing it, though for the entirely laudable object of rendering it unconscious first. The animal is killed under legal dispensation granted to those religious communities, by one swift stroke of a sharp knife. It must be accepted that the Moslem community in Britain has not yet attained the high level of organized supervision practised by the Jewish community, and there are still occasional notorious lapses. But this method of killing, done properly, is by no means necessarily inhumane.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is continuing to campaign against shechita, notwithstanding that attempts to interest Parliament in its prohibition have come to nothing. The case for saying it is a cruel practice is based on some research work done with electroencephalograph equipment, which has apparently shown that measurable brain activity can be detected for up to 90 seconds after the act. Against this is set scientific evidence that the sudden collapse of blood-pressure renders the beast unconscious within a second or two. In humans and animals, EEG readings are no

proof of consciousness: it is argued they are not even proof of life, as they can be detected in decapitated animals.

This technical dispute is amenable to a technical solution, and there is scope for some expert investigation under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture to set out in search of it. Public concern is not automatically illegitimate, nor motivated by ill-will towards the minority groups concerned, and those with good-will and open minds are entitled to some reassurance by such media.

The case for allowing these slaughter techniques prescribed by Jewish and Islamic religious codes is wider than such technical considerations, however, which set a higher burden of proof on those who would prohibit them. Religious rights are real and important, and cannot simply be weighed against "animal rights", a philosophically questionable concept. The consequences for two important religious minorities in Britain of prohibiting shechita and halal would be quite enormous, and such an act would itself be enormously offensive to their sensitivities. They would be entitled to point to the sometimes genuinely inhumane practices involved in the "secular" processes of animal husbandry and slaughtering, and ask what the real motive was for singling them out so blatantly.

Mr Levin and the cause of tolerance

From Mr Eric Heffer, MP for Liverpool Walton (Labour)
Sir, With reference to Bernard Levin's piece in *The Times* features (December 24), I suppose one could not have expected anything better from someone like him, who years ago, before I was an MP, and when I was a councillor and chairman of the works department in Liverpool, wrote that because I believed in a wide union shop for the works department I should have a concrete block tied round my neck and be dropped into the Mersey.

I also remember that around the same time he wrote that if Harold Wilson became Prime Minister he would leave Britain. In view of his often vitriolic writing it is a pity he didn't. He has not contributed one iota to the cause of tolerance.

What amazes me about the House of Commons episode is that not one journalist from those newspapers that criticised me asked me for my reasons for not standing, but without enquiry rushed into print making me out to be an unfeeling villain sullenly sitting in the chamber.

The fact is, I was by no means the only one to remain seated when poor John Wakeham struggled to his seat. According to David McKie in *The Guardian* (December 14) Enoch Powell also remained seated. Yet I note that not one paper has said "shame" or anything else about that.

I do not know Enoch Powell's reasons, but mine were that whilst I felt very pleased that John Wakeham was back, I thought it unseemly that people should be cheering, waving order papers etc., when he must still be grieving the loss of his beloved wife. I was deeply moved at the sight of him, so obviously frail and suffering the effects of the tragedy.

I also felt he was being used and I made that point afterwards to one of the Tory whigs. On that morning he had a photo-call and press conference, and he entered the chamber on the very day of the Enfield by-election. Two days earlier Norman Tebbit had issued a statement to the Enfield electors that only the Conservatives were really against terrorism and that is why they should be given the vote.

The Tory party is the most ruthless political machine and I believe both Norman Tebbit and John Wakeham were used by that machine to boost their sagging support in Enfield. I was glad to see John Wakeham back on the road to recovery but I did not like what in my view was the unscrupulous political use being made of the tragedy.

Young readers will be interested to know that immediately after the Brighton bombing I issued a statement condemning it and sending sympathy to the chairman of the Tory conference, I did that as the chairman of the Labour party conference which had just ended.

Why I should be writing this I really cannot understand. Whether Eric Heffer or anyone else stood or not is really of no importance. There are so many more important things against which Mr Levin could vent his wrath. But I have ceased to expect any more than pettiness and rancour from Mr Levin's pen. It is a pity if obvious talents are not used to better purpose.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC HEFFER,
House of Commons.

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Yours sincerely,
ERIC HEFFER,
House of Commons.

From Miss Pamela Ann Smith
Sir, Mr Bernard Levin is quite right to "point out" quoting Mr Roy Hattersley, that Mr John Wakeham's appearance in the House of Commons after his recovery from the horrors of the Brighton bombing "personified the triumph of democracy over terrorism".

However, am I not right in detecting in Mr Levin's assault on Mr Eric Heffer in the same column a kind of extremism and loss of common humanity - the very traits that he seeks to attribute to Mr Heffer for remaining seated while the House rose to greet Mr Wakeham's entry?

I know of few articles published in recent past that have heaped so much personal abuse on one man. Having known Mr Heffer when he chaired the Labour Party's subcommittee on the Middle East, I was greatly impressed by his tolerance, initiative and depth of knowledge on subjects that ranged from the vintage of Chilean wines, the biographies of Austrian social democrats to the intricacies of Israeli electoral politics.

To those who sought to reduce the Arab-Israeli conflict to slogans and invective, whether they be pro-Palestinian or arch-Beginists, Mr Heffer has always been ready to point out the views of the other side. More generally, he has criticised the regime in Poland and expressed support for Solidarity as well as for those who are now suffering the assaults of the Soviet-backed government in Ethiopia. These policies are hardly consistent with the kind of demagogic, irrational and intolerant support of the international Communist Party that Mr Levin attributes to Mr Heffer.

Nor, I doubt, will Mr Wakeham, the Conservative Party, or *The Times* readers be greatly served by an analysis of Mr Heffer's political motivation that reduces his actions to a question of his "vast and unshapely bulk" or which labels him an "insensate beast".

Mr Levin himself seems taken aback at one point by his own invective, commenting, "I hardly know why I write these words".

Surely if he really wants to know why Mr Heffer failed to greet Mr Wakeham in the same manner as others in the House he ought simply to ask him. That would save us all a lot of Christmas ill will from Mr Levin's poisonous pen.

Yours sincerely,
PAMELA ANN SMITH,
25 Petherton Road, N5,
December 26.

Economic links for S. African reform

From the Master of Hatfield College Durham

Sir, The award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Bishop Desmond Tutu and the demonstrations in the USA which led to President Reagan's denunciation of apartheid raise again the question: "What can we do to promote peaceful change in South Africa?"

Although there is broad agreement in this country that apartheid is abhorrent there is much less agreement about the steps which should be taken against it. The most obvious means of exerting pressure is through the extensive economic links between Britain and South Africa, and over the years there has been a persistent campaign for economic sanctions.

Currently the call (both in the USA and here) is for disinvestment. However, for that or any other forms of economic sanctions the first matter to be settled is the purpose for which they are imposed. Are they to symbolise abhorrence for apartheid and to demonstrate a refusal to cooperate with its perpetrators; or are they to protect the Government from anti-apartheid criticism; or are they to bring about political reform in South Africa?

If they are symbolic or to save the Government's skin perhaps they could be effective, but promoting political reform is much less certain. Previous experience of sanctions suggests that they are a blunt instrument which sometimes has little political effect and sometimes has the reverse impact to that desired. For instance, in this case they might lead to greater white intransigence and to adverse economic consequences for blacks inside South Africa and in the neighbouring states.

Another major problem with sanctions is that those who are responsible for imposing and implementing them - the government and the business community - are less than enthusiastic. No British government (and certainly not Mrs Thatcher's) has been willing to risk losing the economic advantages of the South Africa connection, suspecting that what Britain loses others will gain, and concerned about the political and economic implications at home. On their part the business and financial organisations are eager to extend, not curtail, economic activity and if sanctions were imposed they would

do all they could to circumvent them.

It is, therefore, most unlikely that the British Government would impose sanctions. But it is not impossible. The British Government already imposes a UN arms ban which has important economic implications, and if there were enormous pressures at home and abroad, and if Britain were in danger of isolation from Western partners, the Government might take the step. However, it is most unlikely and it would be done with great reluctance.

Does that mean that the economic links cannot be used to help peaceful reform in South Africa? I think not, although the proposals I make are only a step on a long road and they will not satisfy those who aim for the rapid overthrow of the whole system.

My proposals are that the economic links should be used in a positive way to better the lot of the blacks in the republic. The first step could be for the Government to be more vigorous in ensuring that British firms operating in South Africa comply rigorously with the terms of the EEC code of conduct. This could be done by regular and thorough checks and by exposing those who fall short.

Second, the business and financial communities could initiate a major development fund for blacks. That might be used in three ways: a) for urban improvement, such as housing; b) for education and training; c) for agricultural development in black rural areas.

This final objective - agricultural improvement - might eventually be of value for all black Africa. We are all conscious that unless there is substantial agricultural improvement there will be many more famines like the appalling tragedy which now faces Ethiopia.

It may be unrealistic to expect business organizations to mount a political challenge to the South African Government, but it is unreasonable to suggest that they set up a major development fund (perhaps coordinated by the United Kingdom-South Africa Trade Association) in a country in which many British companies have gained so much and many blacks have gained so little?

Yours faithfully,
JAMES BARBER, Master,
Hatfield College,
Durham,
December 20.

Mr Gorbachov's visit

From Dr Jonathan Sutton

Sir, On the basis of two days of fruitful talks with Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, Mr Thatcher confirmed that she can "do business" with him. That may indeed be her hope, but it is not highly unrealistic to look forward to significantly improved relations with Soviet leaders and at the same time to do so little to promote or fund the study of Russian language and culture in this country?

Where are the British Government's future specialists and advisers on Kremlin policy to come from? According to figures given in the handbook *Russian in Schools*, that was published in 1982 by the Association of Teachers of Russian, the number of students entering for GCE A-level Russian dropped from 846 in 1971 to 379 in 1980.

In the same period those taking the O-level examination in Russian dropped from 3,145 to 1,798. This has occurred as a direct result of

schools being forced, by economic pressures, to give up this subject which was given so much backing in the 1960s.

Russian specialists at all levels have sought to reverse this serious decline, well aware that for the vast majority of secondary school children in Britain Russian does not even feature as one of their language options. The new alternative O-level in "general Russian studies", introduced by the University of London Examination Board (and first examined in June, 1983) represents a valuable means of stimulating interest and of encouraging students to become well-informed.

As a teacher, I find students extremely concerned about the present tensions between East and West and anxious to understand them. Surely it is in the Government's own interests to promote such understanding as early as possible.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN SUTTON,
60 Camden Square, NW1,
December 17.

Preventing 'star wars'

From Colonel Jonathan Alford

Sir, In his letter (December 19) Mr James Hill appears (somewhat idiosyncratically) to have adopted pre-emption as a rationale for the US President's Strategic defence initiative (SDI). He calls in one place for "electronic and laser-based pre-emptive systems" and in another for "a pre-emptive defence system".

If the words have any meaning, Mr Hill's intention must be that the US should somehow strike Soviet weapons before launch. "Pre-emptive defence" is universally taken to mean attacking the military forces of an opponent before he can attack you. Two things need saying. The first is that the technologies envisaged for the SDI would not confer any capability whatsoever to destroy Soviet strategic weapons before launch. The second is that I cannot imagine anything more alarming for strategic stability than a capacity for massive pre-emption even if it was technically feasible (which clearly it is not).

I am confused and alarmed also by the way in which Mr Hill seems to propose the mingling of civilian and military space programmes. If he is really recommending a civilian route to ballistic missile defence, any

prospects for technological restraint and arms control in this area of superpower competition, dim as they may be, would surely vanish.

From this it might reasonably be concluded that I am far closer to Wayland Kennet (feature, December 19) than I am to Mr Hill.

Yours etc,
JONATHAN ALFORD,
21 Irene Road, SW6,
December 20.

From Mr Ronald Youngs
Sir, Your editorial (December 17) on the visit of Mr Gorbachov omits a consideration which must be made if his position is to be understood. Were you a well-informed Soviet citizen, would you not see the development of a fully effective American defence system, of a kind perhaps beyond the resources of the USSR, as creating the possibility of the destruction of your country, branded as evil, because there would be no fear of retaliation? And would you not, in consequence, require of your government, as its first priority, that it should do everything to prevent such a possibility?

Would you, in your own person, like to face with an ordinary Russian, be able to look him squarely in the eye and say that you are quite sure that there are not Americans in high places who harbour just such thoughts as he fears?

Yours faithfully,
RONALD YOUNGS,
Flat 2, Breakers,
Gorey, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Dressing down
From Sir Robin Hooper

Sir, Though I still, from time to time, wear a pin-striped suit, advancing age exempts me from jury service, so I have no personal axe to grind. But Mr John Archer's account of his experiences (December 17) leaves one fighting back an unwelcome suspicion that defending counsel's objections to him had less to do with doubts whether their clients would get a fair trial than with possibly justified fears that they might.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN HOOPER,
Brook House,
Egerton,
Ashford,
Kent,
December 17.

The cares of office

From Dr Bernard Dixon

Sir, At this joyful season, I request the favour of your columns to make a suggestion which may possibly be welcome to politicians of all parties, and indeed to political theatre's public audience.

Sir Keith Joseph has been looking more than usually harassed recently, and I believe I know the reason why. Like many before him (though he shows it more) Sir Keith has been called upon to shoulder twin burdens as Secretary of State for both Education and Science. This is unfair, irrational, and - as we witnessed recently - increasingly unworkable.

For a sensitive minister to be continually yapped at, now by physicists, now by teachers, now from the right, now from the left, is a nuisance. But to find himself withdrawing plans for parental

tuition fees by transferring money back from the science Vote on the very day when the chairman of the Advisory Board for the Research Councils has thanked him for finding those extra funds for science, induces an intolerable turmoil.

This is precisely the sort of manoeuvre which caused even Ivan Pavlov's well-trained dogs acute distress. Is that a reasonable return for a lifetime of public service? Or have we now reached the point at which, while recognizing that science and education are not unconnected, future governments should create separate portfolios and separate departments for these vitally important areas of national life?

Yours sincerely,
BERNARD DIXON,
81 Falmouth Road,
Chelmsford,
Essex,
December 18.

VAT on publications

From the Master and the Upper Warden of the Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company

Sir, In her widely reported speech on November 26 Mrs Thatcher quoted Goethe on the need for each generation to win again the victories of its forebears. She was making the point that we are all guardians of democracy.

Her words should hearten those today who are worried that the Government may be about to impose a levy on the written word. Looking back over its 500-year history, the Stationers' Company has helped win many victories in the fight against the taxation of knowledge and to discredit the idea of such a tax whenever it has reappeared.

ours of those present-day guardians who are fighting to preserve the democratic right to a tax-free press, be it for books or newspapers.

Yours sincerely,
LAURENCE VINEY, Master,
RAY TINDLE, Upper Warden,
The Worshipful Company of Stationers' and Newspaper Makers,
Stationers' Hall, EC4.

Flipping one's lid

From Mr H. B. Bullen

Sir, I have taken to wearing a beret basque. How does one raise the beret when greeting a lady? Yours faithfully,
BRIAN BULLEN,
Chapel Cottage,
Bronydd,
Clwyd,
Hertfordshire,
December 12.

The ring cycle

From Mr Peter Nahum

Sir, If two friends go to an auction together and both want the same item, are they likely to bid against each other?

Should knowledgeable dealers create large prices for ignorant auctioneers and then see the same auctioneer using that high price to compete with them?

There would be no auction rings if the auctioneers truly knew the price of each object they were selling, if they did there would be very few dealers. If there were very few dealers the auctioneers would not stay in business.

The auction ring law is a bad law for bad auctioneers. Let him who is innocent, be it Sotheby's or Christie's, Partridge or Mallet, throw the first stone.
Yours sincerely,
PETER NAHUM,
5 Ryder Street, SW1,
December 16.

THE ARTS

Sir Michael Tippett, Britain's senior major composer, will be 80 next Wednesday; nowadays he is widely admired and respected, but his public and private paths were not always so smooth, as he tells Nicholas Kenyon

A musical mind ever in vigorous quest

"Hello, love. Come in, come in. You'll have to help me sort out these scores and find the cassettes. What's in that plastic bag? No, that's Bill's new pair of slippers. That one... here's a cassette. The Police. No, that was *Desert Island Discs* yesterday (heavens, he's dreary, isn't he). Here we are, this is what I need for America. Corelli's Fourth Symphony... where's the Suite in D? Hang on a minute while I ring Sally..."

Dropping in on Sir Michael Tippett a couple of days before he leaves for America to celebrate his eightieth birthday is like being plunged into one of his first movements: elaborate rhythmic counterpoint, dislocating syncopations and a bustling energy which (both in his music and his life) would not disgrace a man half his age. Tippett's eyesight may be failing, but he remains an electric interest in the world around him and a quite unabashed enthusiasm for the public success which is now his. (That is surely why he has accepted invitations to be fêted in Houston on his birthday, and then to travel to Dallas and Los Angeles. London will have to wait to celebrate him on the South Bank in the last week of January, with a further major Tippett Festival at the Royal Academy of Music at the end of February.)

But beyond the exuberant chaos of plastic bags, through the huge picture window of Tippett's Willesden home, there is a view of uninterrupted peace: a slope of the downs near Chippington with not a building in sight, across which struts the occasional pheasant. Behind Tippett's activity there has always been a profoundly reflective, questioning mind. We have come to know over the years a great deal about what he thinks and feels, but surprisingly little about what he is, and where he has come from. Now that has changed with the publication of Ian Kemp's major new biography, *The Composer and His Parents* (Ebury, £21), which in addition to substantial stylistic analyses of all Tippett's works, except the most recent, provides for the first time a really detailed biography, full of personal revelations. So it was this I wanted to ask Tippett about, starting with the unpleasant story of homosexuality in his Scottish boarding school, Fettes.

"This has come out in Ian's book now, for a long time I didn't want anything said about it. It was a real scandal that they could put a boy in such a position. I'd let my mother know in my letters that the sex she was terrified of was rampant, telling her more explicitly than I realized. I remember almost the whole school was in the sanatorium with some epidemic, and the parents - in fact eleven! Oh dear! (bursts head in hands) I was playing havoc with the family. But I grew out of it. I always looked at myself and said 'Christ! And that went on! I grew up intellectually very quickly - you can hardly believe how lively one was and yet how ignorant.' And was he always



Photograph of Sir Michael Tippett by Malcolm Crowther

had been torn down, all that sort of thing. I had to leave..."

"At grammar school (Stamford) I was much happier, but my aesthetic views didn't go down well. I was thought to be intellectually disruptive! Headmasters are very odd people. He thought I should be reading the sermons of Bishop Gore. I was reading Shaw, Wells. Music was more difficult. Malcolm Sargent had been there and I learnt the piano with his teacher, Mrs. Tinkler. I do remember some early things like the Mozart G minor Symphony, and even before that, a boy with a pipe singing 'Over the sea to Skye'. Not even a real folksong, but terribly moving."

"My parents didn't know what was to be done about my becoming a musician. They were very odd, looking back on it. Even Sargent didn't encourage it. Said I had no particular ability as far as he was concerned. Well, I don't mind that... I was a clever boy and they thought I could go into law and make the family fortune. My father had been at Oxford, and studied law: that was the only way through as far as he could see. But they found out about the Royal College of Music and so I went there."

"Was he always a rebellious person?" "In a sense yes. I had a very early adolescence - ten or eleven! Oh dear! (bursts head in hands) I was playing havoc with the family. But I grew out of it. I always looked at myself and said 'Christ! And that went on! I grew up intellectually very quickly - you can hardly believe how lively one was and yet how ignorant.' And was he always

what I wanted to learn", where after the war he became Director of Music. "There were only four or five professional performances of my works. But somehow I knew that I wasn't going to be myself until I was forty. And it happened with *Child of Our Time*. Wasn't he jealous of the successes he saw around him? "Oh, Britain was doing well with the Piano Concerto because he was a brilliant player; like Stravinsky, he appeared a lot. But I was really not affected by it."

"I'll tell you one thing which doesn't come out in Ian's account, which is that when Ben came back from America we were really very close for a while - until *Peter Grimes*. And then he flew off into the clouds and became rather difficult to talk to. But we used to discuss all the things we would do and I remember Ben saying that the only real thing was opera, and so he wrote *Grimes* and formed the company and so on. I couldn't go along with that. I had to say that I wanted always to work in a variety of forms, not just operas, not just symphonies."

"Well, symphonies were a problem. That was what we were expected to do. Vaughan Williams was doing it, and there was Rubbra as his great successor, and there was old Arnold Bax - at the College we used to say 'Arnold's in symphony again' - and they all came out very impressive and they never did anything, they were all the same [shrugs with laughter]."

"I was always on the outside of the fashionable circle. There they all were, Walton, in a bad way after the war, Cecil Gray, Rawsthorne, a few others; oh, they could be pretty silly at times. After Walton got married, and he heard that they might make Ben music director at Covent Garden, we were summoned to a lunch or something and he got up and started going on about 'keeping the buggers out of Covent Garden'. People are funny, aren't they? But I wasn't at the centre of that world, you see. I couldn't have been any use to them so I had no status in it. And I was never disturbed by it."

"Looking back on it, the turning point for Tippett came when conductors arrived who understood his music. 'Sargent tried. But, oh God. I remember at a rehearsal a trombonist asking him if some clash was right and he asked me so I said, yes, it's right, it's just like 'Lasciatemi morire'. Sargent didn't have a clue what I was talking about. Nowadays conductors like Andrew Parrott and Nick Cleobury know their Monteverdi and Purcell; it's in their blood."

"Tippett's stories are endless; they look more malicious in print than they sound when accompanied by giggles and grimaces. Now he has found the perfect interpreter in Colin Davis. 'We are very close; the relationship is magical, so that sometimes we hardly dare speak' and his music is accepted and loved internationally; there are no grudges against the past, just surprise that it all could have happened to him."

John Savident (left) and Graeme Garden in *A Little Hotel on the Side*: "the finest farce production seen in London for eighteen years"Irving Wardle assesses the theatrical year
Successful pain-killers

Hardly had the new year dawned than my local off-litence greeted it with a morale-boosting window display. "1984" it said in spooky Gothic lettering eighteen inches high, rudely answered from below by an Andy Capp figure, pointing out the plentiful stock of pain-killers on sale inside, and blowing a large raspberry-hued bubble. "Come off it Orwell!"

That is one way of characterizing the past year's theatrical binges: its jubilant showmen awash in dollars, and the sound of civic strife drowned in the merry clicking of turnstiles as those who can afford it shell out on the latest piece of mindless American pop. However, if there is one thing I have learnt in this job, it is not to expect any direct feed-back from the nation to the national stage. The most topical plays of the year were Dario Fo's *Trumpets* and

event in *Rough Crossing*, for which he was ungratefully clobbered by my esteemed colleagues; and, with Feydeau's *A Little Hotel on the Side*, Jonathan Lynn made his National Theatre debut by directing the finest farce production seen in London since Jacques Charon launched the farce revival with *A Flea in Her Ear* eighteen years ago.

Even *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* - visible from long distance as a best-selling rip-off (when are Sue Townsend's original plays going to activate the managerial chequebooks?) - proved to be a thoroughbred piece of comic workmanship with the resolutely down-market vitality of a seaside postcard.

It is only when you look below the thoroughbred level that doubts start setting in. I cannot recall a year when comedy reached such a saturation point, and when all lines of resistance gave way to the slogan of Fun at Any Price. One can suggest deepening British gloom or the increasingly buoyant dollar as glib explanations for this. And you can see how an amiably slapdash entertainment like Richard Williams's *Stepping Out* chimes in with the present mood of parochial withdrawal. Likewise, I have to admit, the RSC revival of *The Happiest Days of Your Life*. But who in their right minds can ever have decided it was worth splashing out on hopelessly unworkable pieces like the Old Vic revival of *Big in Brazil* (already a proven flop) and the unspeakable *Top People*?

Meanwhile, the loudly acclaimed flow of fringe discoveries into the commercial theatre has dried up. If the West End was short of good new comedies these were readily available from places like the (now doomed) Gate at the Latchmere and the Bush. But as yet there seem to have been no offers for Sharman McDonald's *When I Was a Girl I Used to Scream and Shout*, the most promising comic debut of the year, and Brian Thompson's marvellous *Turning Over*.

Looking at the new play market in general, one is less struck by what is there than by what is missing. There has been a deafening silence from the top end of the profession, broken only by Michael Frayn's muted *Bent* (suggesting one of his old Miscellaneous pieces, minus the jokes) and Harold Pinter's modest debut in the political field with *One for the Road* (joined, amazingly, by Beckett in *Catastrophe*). Otherwise not only has the "decline of England" play vanished from the scene, but also any thoughtful treatments of the here and now (Ireland, thanks to Ron Hutchinson and Seamus Heaney, is another matter). Instead, the focus of new writing has shifted to other times and other places.

Following David Pownall's *Master Class*, Charles Wood (*Red Star*), Michael Wilcox (*The 78 Revolution*) and Stephen Poliakoff (*Breaking the Silence*) explored other lunacies of intellectual survival in the Soviet past, capped by even crazier goings-on in the British wartime Secret Service in Nicholas Wright's *The Desert Air*. Ronald Harwood's *Tramway Road* dealt a blow against British self-righteousness by involving a pair of emigré little Englanders in the birth of apartheid. Howard Brenton lined up Castlereagh's Britain with Thatcher's through the lives of those better known exiles, Shelley and Byron, in *Bloody Poetry*: a biographically

her appetite on the giant heroines of O'Neill and Racine, which, without her, would have remained unseen. Rarely has personal ambition delivered such public service.

The appearance of Jackson's *Strange Interlude* at the Duke of York's, and the long-overdue British premiere of Sartre's *The Devil and the Good Lord* at the Lyric, Hammersmith, highlight the defection of our two main companies - and particularly the RSC - from the international repertoire. By rights, we should be seeing such plays at the Olivier and the Barbican, instead of relying on the whim of independent managements, or outlying repertory theatres (like Watford, which brought in the Lyric, Hammersmith, highlight the defection of our two main companies - and particularly the RSC - from the international repertoire. By rights, we should be seeing such plays at the Olivier and the Barbican, instead of relying on the whim of independent managements, or outlying repertory theatres (like Watford, which brought in the Lyric, Hammersmith, highlight the defection of our two main companies - and particularly the RSC - from the international repertoire. 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Quiet trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 24. Dealings End, Jan 11. \$ Contango Day, Jan 14. Settlement Day, Jan 21.
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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

- 00.00 Cee-fax AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the latest facility.
- 06.30 Breakfast Time with Frank and Paula. News from 6.30 to 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18. Plus exercises from the Green Goddess and a look back at some of the year's breakfast Time highlights. The guest is Terry Scott.
- 09.00 Charlie Brown. Cartoon. 9.25 Inch High Private Eye (9.30) Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon version (9.30) Lasseie comes to the aid of two moonstruckers trapped by a forest fire.
- 10.15 Jackanory. Charlie Lough leads Puss in Boots (9.30) Play School, presented by Carol Chell. 10.50 Heads and Tails. A See-Saw programme for the very young (9.11.05) Cartoons: Tom and Jerry.
- 15.00 Bonanza. Little Joe meets a sailor who is returning home to unearthing a cache he hid many years before. But his home is now a thriving town. 12.05 Walt TBI Your Favourite Gags. A Hanna-Barbera cartoon series.
- 2.30 Midday News with Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Jim Bacon. 12.42 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles).
- 2.45 Junior Kick Start. The final heat. 1.10 Kung Fu. Caine meets his half-brother and becomes involved in a feud. 2.00 Bugs Bunny's Looney Christmas Tales.
- 3.20 Films: Courage of Lassie (1948) starring Elizabeth Taylor. The brave dog has had a successful second World War but like some of his human colleagues he returns home deeply affected by the hostilities. Directed by Fred M. Wilcox.
- 3.50 Jackanory. Martin Jarvis reads William - at Christmas. 4.05 Alice in Wonderland. A cartoon version with the voices of Nigel Hawthorne and Tracy Childs. 4.30 Cartoons: Tom and Jerry. 4.40 Culture Club in Concert at the National Exhibition Centre. 5.30 Grange Hill. Episode 17 (9) (Cee-fax).
- 6.00 News with Frances Coverdale. 6.15 Regional news.
- 6.20 Tomorrow's World explores the world of illusion and perception.
- 6.50 Top of the Pops Review of 1984, introduced by Lenny Henry.
- 7.50 The Kenny Everett Christmas Show. Fast moving comedy sketches from a very funny man.
- 8.20 Fomdige. It is Christmas time at St. Francis. The inmates, notably Stanley Fletcher, are not feeling seasonal (9) (Cee-fax).
- 9.00 Miss Marple: The Body in the Library. Part two and Miss Marple's theory about a second killing is proved correct (Cee-fax).
- 9.55 News with Frances Coverdale.
- 10.10 Review of the Year 1984 presented by Frank Bough and Selina Scott (Cee-fax).
- 11.30 Golf: The One Club Challenge for the Epsom Trophy. The second match in the competition and Mariano Ballesteros with Lee Trevino play Greg Norman and Hal Sutton. The commentator is Peter Alliss.
- 12.20 Weather.

TV-am

- 6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.30 and 7.30; guests from 6.45, Jenny Agutter, Paul Nicholas and Joshua Rifkin; exercises at 8.45; Denis Healey remembers Christmas past at 8.15; film reviews at 8.35; advice at 8.45; Roland Rat at 9.00.
- 9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Filicia. Musical stories for the young, introduced by Christopher Lillicrap (9.35) The Christmas Tree Train. The story of a young boy, and his friends, who live in a forest of Christmas trees.
- 10.00 Film: Island of Adventure (1981) starring John Franks, Patrick Field, Norman Bowler and William B. Davis. An Enid Blyton adventure.
- 11.25 New Brighton Rock. Pop concert recorded at New Brighton's bathing pool. Among the acts appearing are Gloria Gaynor, Frankie Goes to Hollywood and Spandau Ballet (9).
- 1.00 News at One. 1.20 Thames news with Robin Houston.
- 1.30 St Ival Ice Gala, presented by Simon Reed from the St Ival Ice Rink. The star of the show is Robin Cousins.
- 2.30 Film: The Thirty Nine Steps (1978) starring Robert Powell. John Buchan's classic adventure story about an engineer who becomes involved with British Intelligence, themselves trying to prevent the visiting Greek Prime Minister from being assassinated. Directed by Don Shaw.
- 4.15 University Challenge presented by Bamber Gascoigne.
- 4.45 Knight Rider. Michael Knight and his computerized car, KITT, are tricked into helping a 14-year-old con artist (9).
- 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news.
- 6.35 Crossroads. More drama from the Midlands motel.
- 7.00 The Krypton Factor Olympic Celebrity Special. For a medalist from this year's Olympics compete in a searching series of physical tests followed by one to test the brain. Gordon Burns introduces. 7.30 The Krypton Factor. Andy Holden, Neil Adams and John Croft (Oracle).
- 7.30 Film: Somebody Killed Her Husband (1978) starring Farrah Fawcett and Jeff Bridges. A light-hearted mystery story about the young wife of an unhappy marriage who meets a man she falls in love with. When the two eventually go to confront the husband they find he has been murdered. Directed by Lamont Johnson.
- 8.15 Frankenstein. Mary Shelley's classic horror tale about a man's attempts to construct another human by means of spare-part surgery and how the experiments went badly wrong. Starring Robert Powell, Dennis Fisher, David Warner, John Gielgud, Terence Alexander and Susan Woodridge (Oracle).
- 10.40 News followed by Thames news headlines.
- 11.00 World in Action: The First 21 Years. A compilation of the best of the investigative programme's subjects drawing on its mammoth archive of nearly 500 hours of film. Early black and white footage examines the background dancing career of the Beatles while later topics include sanctions busting in Rhodesia and tales of financial double dealing (Oracle).
- 12.30 Pease, presented by Gill Nevill.
- 12.40 Close-down.

ITV LONDON



Gore Vidal in Venice (Channel 4, 9.00 pm)

● VIDAL IN VENICE (Channel 4, 9.00pm) is a personal view of La Serenissima by the American writer, Gore Vidal: personal being the key word, for Mr Vidal has full blood in his veins which makes him a Venetian as near as damn it. You will note that the title is Vidal in Venice, not Vidal on Venice. This makes Vidal a Scorsese's two films (the second can be seen tomorrow night) even more personal, because Mr Vidal is not just talking over the pictures, but becomes an integral part of them. And it must be said that he is almost as photogenic as the city itself, a romantic movie star marquis. In fact, the least interesting thing about tonight's film is Mr Vidal's attempt to identify his Venetian ancestry. In ancient books, he traces sundry Vidalis who were debtors. And there were three

CHOICE

Vidalis who were dogs, but as Vidal was only their Christian name, we are denied the spectacle of seeing Mr Vidal throwing a wedding ring into the Grand Canal in the symbolic ritual of marrying city to sea. He has more luck with the Tiepolo family. The director of the city's archives turns out to be the last of the line. Venice has had many far less conscientious historians than Gore Vidal. And he is sparing in his use of the cliché, contenting himself with the self-evident fact that Venice is perhaps the most beautiful cliché on earth. More opaque is his statement that, like most clichés, Venice is best seen at its emptiest.

● Best of tonight's films: Chaplin's MONSIEUR VERDOUX (BBC 2, 9.35pm), still the most stylish and funniest film ever made about a multi-murderer; and Richard Attenborough's OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR (Channel 4, 10.00pm), a brilliantly inventive musical about another kind of mass murder.

● Radio highlights: Emyln Williams's READINGS FROM DICKENS (Radio 4, 11.15pm), which are superb examples of the storyteller's art, and deserves an earlier time slot than this. And THE DREAM CHILD (Radio 4, 9.45am), Richard Muller's portrait of Charles and Mary Lamb: a tragic brother-sister relationship that, despite everything, produced so much charming literature.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

- 9.00 Cee-fax. 12.45 Film: The Valley of the Gwangi (1968) starring James Franciscus and Richard Carlson. Members of a Wild West Show explore Mexico's Forbidden Valley, ignoring the warnings of a blind gypsy that they will evoke the curse of the Gwangi. Directed by James O'Connolly.
- 2.20 Schools Proms 84, introduced by Antony Hopkins. Highlights the three-day from include performances by the South Glamorgan Youth Orchestra with guest soloist, the 1984 BBC Young Musician of the Year, Emma Johnson; and the Corby Bearded School Band with the trombonist Don Lusher.
- 3.10 Cartoons.
- 3.25 Film: Monsieur Verdoux (1947) starring Charlie Chaplin and Martha Raye. A black comedy with Chaplin playing a mild-mannered bank clerk who is fired when the recession comes. He decides to play Bluebeard and marries a string of rich women around the country, eventually bumping them off when their money runs out. Directed by Charlie Chaplin.
- 5.25 News summary with subtitles.
- 5.30 Telly Quiz.
- 6.00 Film: Reap the Wild Wind (1942) starring John Wayne, Susan Hayward and Ray Milland. A Cecil B. DeMille epic about the crew of a sailing ship plying the coasts of 19th century America.
- 8.00 Former Glory. The story of the struggle by Father Christopher Spencer and his parishioners to restore the church of St Lawrence, Little Stanmore, built by James Bridges, the first Duke of Chandos who kept a private 22-piece orchestra and employed Handel as his music master.
- 8.00 The Best... and Worst of Entertainment USA. Jonathan King is in Hawaii for this edition that looks back at the last four series and picks, as the title suggests, the most banal and the most interesting items. Among the former is the Miss Diaper contest, among the latter, an interview with Michael Grade, now Controller of BBC 1, but then a television executive living in America, on the contrasts between British and American television.
- 8.55 The Best of... and Worst of... A feature length edition which, when shown in the United States last year, drew an audience of an estimated 125 million viewers. Set in the last days of the Korean War, Hawkeye is being treated for a breakdown, brought on by the pressures of the war; Charles is caught in an embarrassing position by an inebriated tank and the war-torn couple are finally made an equal. Directed by Alan Alda.
- 11.50 Lindisfarne Christmas Show. The Newcastle group in concert in their home town's City Hall. Ends at 12.35.

CHANNEL 4

- 11.00 Film: Captain Sirk (1982) made by the Children's Film Unit. A musical drama, set in 19th century London, follows the adventures of a gang of child thieves and pickpockets. Professional actors, Roger Sloman and Wendy Staver are joined by children aged from seven to 17 (9).
- 12.40 Christmas Cracker. A seven awards-winning animated film. Rhythmic Norman McLaren's award-winning animated film.
- 1.00 Channel Four Racing from Kempton Park. Brought Scott introduces coverage of four races - the Kempton Novices' Chase (12.40) (re-runs); The Ladybrook Handicap (1.10); the Ladbrokes Handicap Chase (1.40); and the Feltham Novices' Chase (2.10). The race commentator is Graham Good.
- 2.30 We're Gonna Sing. A documentary that examines the life of black people in this country through the medium of gospel singing. With the London Community Gospel Choir, directed by the Rev Sam Mende. Parodies Echoes of Joy, the Letter Rain Outpouring Choir and Lawrence Johnson.
- 3.10 Arms and the Man, by George Bernard Shaw. Richard Briers, Alice Krige and Peter Egan star in this television version of the 1932 West End revival of Shaw's romantic comedy about an escaping Serbian officer from the routed Serbian Army who takes refuge in the bedroom of the enemy commander's fiancée (9).
- 5.00 Sebastian Coe Born to Run. A documentary, filmed over a period of two years, that follows the ups and downs and ups of one of Britain's top athletes. Written and narrated by Tony Maylam.
- 6.00 The Amateur Naturalists of the Year. The winners of the three sections (different age groups) at work on their projects. A schoolmistress goes on a suburban safari: a young boy organizes a scheme to save Norfolk frogs; and a teenage girl studies the plight of the badger. Presented by Gerald Durrell and Lee Durrell.
- 7.00 Channel Four News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 4.55 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 5.55 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 6.55 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 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State on trial with a priest's killers



By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

the pit have been lost along with mining machinery worth several million pounds, a coal

eral million pounds, a coal board spokesman said.

duties from 200 to a mere 40 during the Royal Family's stay.



That suits the Government. By deciding to fight an assumed headline challenge to General Zjaruzelski with a policy of relative candour — making it seen for a brief, all too brief, moment as if the nation was at one with the

This time it will not be so easy. Many eyes are on Torun.

[illegible]

published in The Times Portfolio table which will appear on the Stock Exchange Prices page, and in the columns provided next to your shares. The number of shares you own will be indicated in that day's Times.

After telling the price changes of your eight shares, you will be asked to enter the number of shares you wish to sell. The number of shares you sell will give your overall total plus or minus (+ or -).

At the end of each overall total against The Times Portfolio dividend published on the Stock Exchange Prices page.

At the end of each overall total matches The Times Portfolio dividend you have won outright or a share of the total prize money stated for that week and must claim your prize as instructed below.

Portfolio - how to play

Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio

Added these together to determine your daily Portfolio total.

At the end of each week the published weekly dividend you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Winning The Times Portfolio claims: line 44-552727 between 9.00 and 5.30 pm, the day of your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be made after 5.30 pm.

You must have your card with you when you phone.

Those who are unable to telephone tomorrow call on your behalf, but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims office.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason and no prize will be paid.

The above instructions are applicable to the daily and weekly dividend Claims.

Prize money will be paid to the winner of the overall total in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not irrevocable.

The wording of Rules 2 and 5 has been amended to clarify the participation process. The Game itself is not affected and continues to be played in exactly the same way.

Birkus Johannes Kepler, astronomer. Weilder Stadt, Germany, 1571; Louis Pasteur, Dole, France, 1822; Deaths: Thomas Guy, founder of Guy's Hospital, London, 1724; Thomas Southcott, religious tract writer, London, 1814; Charles Lamb, Edmondmont, Middlesex, 1834; Max Beckmann, Expressionist painter, New York, 1950; Lester Pearson, Canadian minister of Canada 1963-68, 1972.

Today is the Feast of Saint John the Apostle.

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Office.

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Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Jarrow 18.5°C; lowest day temp: Epsom Downs, DC 10.5°C
Highest rainfall: Breda, 0.56in; high sunshine: Nottingham, St Andrews 5.5hr
Tuesday: Highest day temp: Penzance, 22.7°C; lowest day temp: Newcastle-on-Tyne 10.9°C
Highest rainfall: St Bees Head, 1.0in
Highest sunshine: Gtracombe, 4.5hr
Monday: Highest day temp: Margate 16.4°C; lowest day temp: Aylesmere 3C (2)
Highest rainfall: Dieburg 0.44in; high sunshine: Telukong 5hr

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